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Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Kilili upbeat on Dems' chances

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) is optimistic about the chances of the Democratic Party taking back control of the upcoming 116th Congress—a scenario that could improve the chances of H.R. 6578 and a proposed change by Guam's Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) to give territorial delegates a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sablan said the 115th Congress would work through Dec. 13, 2018 before adjourning for the holiday break.

A Democratic-controlled Congress would, in Sablan's opinion, be friendly to a bill that he introduced, H.R. 6578 or the Northern Mariana Islands Workforce Stabilization, which aims to give improved immigration status to long-term foreign workers and investors in the CNMI.

He previously tried similar bills but they didn't gain enough traction in Congress. It would be different this time, he said.

See KILILI on Page 4

Atalig: Nothing to apologize for

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, who has been indicted on corruption charges, insisted yesterday that he did nothing wrong and has nothing to apologize for.

Atalig

O'Connor

Atalig's private lawyer, Robert O'Connor, said the U.S. government is sometimes too intent in finding corruption where none exists. This causes the U.S. government to ignore reasonable and truthful explanations for what they incorrectly assumed was wrongful conduct, he said.

"This is one of those cases," said O'Connor, adding that the mayor is "one of the CNMI's most dedicated and honest

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Public education needed for cannabis bill

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is looking to further educate the public on House Bill 20-178 or the CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018 that would authorize the regulation and control of marijuana use in the Commonwealth.

H.B. 20-178 is already on Torres' desk and under review with the help of Governor's Office legal counsel Gil Birnbrich. The bill cleared its final hurdle in the Legislature

See PUBLIC on Page 4

Animals also sought shelter during typhoon

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

A video making the rounds on Facebook shows a man rescuing six dogs that have been abandoned just before Hurricane Florence hit the Carolinas this week. The video shows the dogs up to their chest already in floodwaters and were in danger of drowning if not for the timely arrival of help.

Tragically, the video is typical. In times of disaster, animals are oftentimes a second thought, bearing the painful brunt of crises and often dying in the process.

Last week's Typhoon Mangkhut was an example. It not only impacted people; it was also devastating to animals, especially those that don't belong to a family to care for them.

Imagine a situation where you are lost, disoriented, and trying to understand the environment you're in. Even worse, what if you are

See ANIMALS on Page 4

Puppies and cats are up for adoption at the Saipan Mayor's Dog Control Program. Call program manager Spencer Camacho-Marchadesch at (670) 783-4743

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

INSIDE

NATION
One of North Carolina's largest cities is mostly cut off by floodwaters from Florence.
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Dozens of people believed buried in a landslide in the Philippines probably did not survive.
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HBO's "Game of Thrones" recaptures the best drama series Emmy.
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Local

Rota shelterees head home

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The almost 20 families that sought shelter at the Rota Aging Office last Sept. 9 just before Typhoon Mangkhut plowed through Rota are finally preparing to head home.

According to Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter, shelterees at the Rota Aging Office are preparing to go back to their homes after first inspecting their homes with the help of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Red Cross-NMI Chapter.

"Right now, [the Rota Aging Office] is case-managing the families here and doing all these inspections to find out what the conditions of the [shelterees'] homes are in," he told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"Those that have major damage to their homes receive temporary shelter and tents and all of the sheltered families are going through the 'Red Cross process' to avail of a one-time temporary assistance from the organization, which I understand is financial," he added.

Hunter noted that, as of publication, the Aging Office is still processing the families, and that he predicts all the shelterees to be assessed by Thursday.

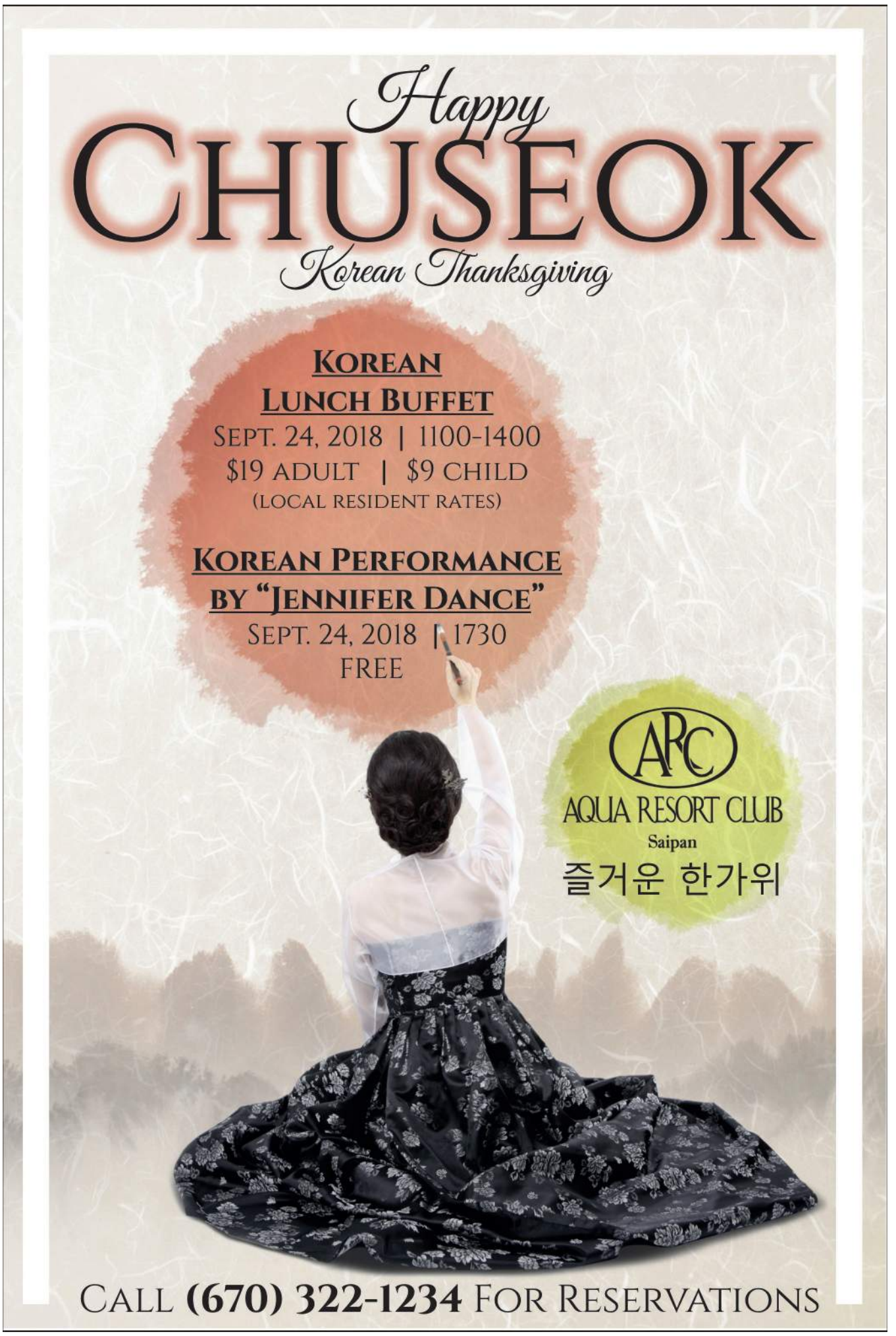
"There are already a bunch of families out of the shelter and the remaining [families] should be taken cared of by Thursday," he said.

Although he is unaware of the exact number of remaining families at the Aging Office, Hunter noted that the number continues to go down, as they are being interviewed as of publication.

Mangkhut is now in China and making its way northwest with maximum speed of 287 kph, or 178mph.

According to previous information from DCCA, there were 34 total shelterees on Rota—17 each at the Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School and the Rota Aging Office.

Saipan shelterees previously totaled 516, while Tinian had 72.



2018 Green Gala a sold-out success

Gold's Gym goes strong for MINA with general manager Tyce Mister, Gold's management team, and MINA Tasi Watch rangers.
MINA

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The 6th Annual 2018 Green Gala held Friday evening at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan sold out all tickets, presented awards to prominent environmentalists, raised funds for MINA's many programs, and still managed to throw a fun party at the Hibiscus Hall—an all-around roaring success, according to both the executive director and the board chair of the organization.

All 200 tickets for the party were sold, said MINA executive director Roberta Guerrero.

"The turnout was good. There was issue with the weather tonight. I know there is a power outage in other parts of the island, so I think it is hampering the people's ability to turn up early. We have got a great turnout and we are happy to see everybody coming in," Guerrero said.

The theme for Friday night's Green Gala was the International Year of the Reef. "That is why the décor is all ocean-themed and we wanted to highlight that," Guerrero added.

"We have been seeing a lot of coral bleaching due to climate change and rising temperatures of our oceans. We are also seeing massive storms throughout the Atlantic Ocean all the way through the Pacific Ocean, which are all caused by climate change," Guerrero added.

MINA program manager Becky Furey told *Saipan Tribune* in a previous interview that the aim of the party was to raise funds to finance the operation of the organization, which advocates for the conservation and preservation of the environment.

The MINA leadership, including the board chair Frances Castro, noted that Friday night's turnout was significant.

"We are sold out every year and people trickle in between 7pm and 8pm… the place is packed, everyone is having a good time, and they know that it is just a celebration for the environment," Castro told *Saipan Tribune*.

The MINA board chairwoman believes that the support of the community originates from the projects of MINA, which include several beach cleanups, research assistance, and even community education.

"I believe MINA is the only group in the CNMI that really does a lot of work to protect the environment, so I am happy that people really embrace it," she said.

Guerrero said the amount raised at the Green Gala would be disclosed once the environment organization finalizes the numbers.

Former VIP services host sues for lost wages, tips

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A former VIP services host at the Imperial Pacific Resort and Casino sued the company yesterday in federal court for allegedly not paying her minimum wage and overtime wages and refusing to give her customers' tips.

Fitzgerald

Shirline Loh is suing Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC for alleged violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act and Minimum Wage Hour Act, and conversion and fraud.

Saipan Tribune was still awaiting comments from IPI about the lawsuit as of press time.

Loh, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, is demanding that Imperial Pacific be made to pay her the minimum wage and overtime pay. Loh also wants her shares of tips.

Loh is a citizen of Singapore. She currently resides there.

According to Fitzgerald in the complaint, Loh worked for IPI from Oct. 15, 2015, to August 2016.

Fitzgerald said the contract provided that, among other things, Loh would be employed as a VIP services host. Her duties would consist of offering guests drinks and food, making sure necessary gaming items were available to guests, arranging chairs, picking up garbage, and ensuring that places VIP guests visited were clean.

From the beginning of Loh's employment, the lawyer said, IPI intentionally required, by written contract, that she work more than 40 hours per week, without being paid for overtime.

From October 2015 through August 2016, Loh allegedly worked for IPI in excess of 14 hours per day, seven days per week.

From October 2015 through August 2016, IPI allegedly paid Loh $2,300 per month for her services.

Fitzgerald said IPI failed to pay Loh all minimum wages and overtime wages required by the Fair Labor Standards Act and of the Minimum Wage Hour Act.

He said tips were given by customers to IPI for the specific purpose of rewarding VIP hosts for good service, with the direction that IPI pay these tips to the VIP hosts.

The lawyer said IPI intentionally refused to pay Loh these tips and instead pocketed them.

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~~8D227~~	~~Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back~~ SOLD	~~$3,500~~	~~$17,495~~
~~8D248~~	~~White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back~~ SOLD	~~$3,000~~	~~$17,995~~
~~8D249~~	~~Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up~~ SOLD	~~$3,000~~	~~$17,995~~
8D250	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera	$3,000	$17,995
8D256	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera	$3,000	$17,995
8D257	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera	$3,000	$17,995
~~8D212~~	~~Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up~~ SOLD ~~alloy wheels~~	~~$4,500~~	~~$18,495~~
~~8D228~~	~~White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back~~ SOLD ~~alloy wheels~~	~~$4,500~~	~~$18,495~~
~~8D229~~	~~Black, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back~~ SOLD ~~alloy wheels~~	~~$4,500~~	~~$18,495~~
8D230	Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$4,500	$18,495
8D231	Blue, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$4,500	$18,495
	MAZDA 6i TOURING		
8D235	White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$23,995
8D236	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$23,995
	2019 CX-3		
9D001	Brown, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, Sport	$3,000	$20,995
9D002	Ceramic, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, Sport	$3,000	$20,995
9D003	Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Grand Touring	$3,000	$25,995
9D004	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Grand Touring	$3,000	$25,995
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8D203	White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Sunroof	$3,000	$27,995
8D204	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Sunroof	$3,000	$27,995
8D218	White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Sunroof	$2,000	$28,995
8D219	Blue, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Sunroof	$2,000	$28,995
~~8D243~~	~~Black, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd~~ SOLD ~~nroof~~	~~$2,000~~	~~$28,995~~
	2019 CX-9 GRAND TOURING		
8D103	White, 4-cyl. turbo Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, 7-Pax	$10,000	$34,995
8D128	Silver, 4-cyl. turbo Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, 7-Pax	$10,000	$34,995

HYUNDAI

	2018 TUCSON	DISCOUNT	PRICE
8H096	Blue, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
~~8H097~~	~~Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, bac~~ SOLD ~~a, alloy wheels~~	~~$3,000~~	~~$22,995~~
8H099	Black, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H100	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H101	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H102	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H103	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H104	Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H105	Black, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H107	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
	2018 SANTA FE		
8H073	Silver, 6-pax, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$5,000	$28,995

MITSUBISHI

	2018 MIRAGE SE HATCHBACK	DISCOUNT	PRICE
8M030	White, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,500	$15,495
~~8M031~~	~~Red, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up c~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
8M032	Silver, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,500	$15,495
~~8M035~~	~~Red, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up c~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
8M036	Gray, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,500	$15,495
	2018 MIRAGE G4 SEDAN		
8M019	White, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,500	$15,495
~~8M020~~	~~Silver, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up~~ SOLD ~~less entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
~~8M021~~	~~Red, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up c~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
~~8M022~~	~~Gray, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up c~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
8M026	Blue, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,000	$15,995
~~8M027~~	~~Black, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up~~ SOLD ~~less entry~~	~~$3,000~~	~~$15,995~~
8M033	White, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,000	$15,995
8M034	Red, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,000	$15,995

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Debates to be streamed live

The Gubernatorial Debate and U.S. Delegate Debate that will be hosted this week and next by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Marianas College will be streamed live, to enable people to watch both events via the internet.

Velma Palacios, chamber board president, said that tickets to both candidates' debates sold out almost immediately after the announcement of the event.

"We sold 300 tickets for each debate and are pleased with the response from our community. This is a very important event that will allow community stakeholders to hear from candidates pursuing the highest seats in the CNMI," she said. "We understand the demand for this debate and are excited that the Northern Marianas College has graciously offered to livestream the event to reach more people in the CNMI."

The U.S. Delegate Debate is slated tomorrow, Sept. 20, 2018, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center from 6pm to 8:30pm. It will be livestreamed through the Northern Marianas College Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/NMC.Proa/ and Saipan Chamber of Commerce group page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1614723608777186/?ref=br_rs.

Daily updates on the debates are posted to both pages.

In addition to NMC's livestreaming, media partners have been invited to join the event so that the information is well covered for individuals who were not able to secure a ticket. ***(PR)***

ANIMALS

From Page 1

a homeless cat or dog, wandering the streets and looking for food while battling strong winds, rain, hunger, and cold.

This is what Abby Elmo of Chalan Piao felt when her daughter came inside the house holding a small kitten in her hands last Monday afternoon just hours before the expected landfall of Typhoon Mangkhut.

"My daughter asked me, 'Mom, can we adopt this cat?' I asked where she found the cat because the owner might be looking for it. The kitten appeared to be pitiful, vulnerable, and sweet. Our whole family decided to take the poor kitten in and she's now a part of the family," she said.

"We have to make space for her in our house and in our hearts. We already have other [pets]. …It was a tough decision [and] in my mind, 'Oh, it's another pet!' But once you see this kitten, your heart will melt and, with a typhoon that was strong as Mangkhut, you know immediately that she will not have any chance to live," she added.

Saipan Mayor's Office Dog Control Program manager Spencer Camacho-Merchadesh said there were a total of 70 cats and dogs at the compound when Typhoon Mangkhut hit the Marianas last Monday.

"It's hard for animals right now…I was at the compound the day after the storm and checked on the animals. There were only some debris scattered and we are fortunate to still have water and all the animals are okay."

"We have accumulated this much animals in the compound because, aside from the calls that we get from people like off-leash dogs or those who are confined, there are just so many out in the streets with no homes that we are forced to pick them up and bring them to the shelter," he added.

Spencer said the shelter needs the community's help in sharing their homes with the cats and dogs that are under their care.

"We welcome everyone who has a room in their hearts and homes to come and adopt… Our dogs range from 3-month-old puppies to 7-year-old dogs," he said.

"We are open everyday, including weekends from 7am to 4:30pm… At times, especially before and after a storm, we need all the help that we can get. For more information, call the Mayor's Office at 234-6208 or in my phone at 783-4743," he added.

Saipan Cares for Animals feared so much for the safety of their dogs and cats at the clinic that they sought help from the community to help foster the animals during Typhoon Mangkhut. "I did a quick post on Facebook that I was concerned that the cat area might be blown away and we have no place for them inside because the cat area outside is where they live. People just immediately came and responded and that I had more people to take care of the cats than we have cats," said Saipan Care for Animals president Beth Pliscou.

"It was 28 cats that were gone in just an hour. All fostered out. People kept coming and they took some puppies that also needed a lot of care because they are young and needed more attention, that's why we cannot leave them for 24 hours. Somebody took all the puppies for foster care," Pliscou added.

Pliscou is hopeful that adoptions will come out of foster care.

"We are hoping that some adoptions will happen because they took them into their homes… I really did not know what we would them with them before the storm. One thing is for sure: we cannot possibly leave them outside. All the dogs were put in kennels inside, but there isn't a kennel for the cats because we don't have the room," she said.

"We always have a few families that are regulars that are always fostering and getting animals, but when we really had this emergency, people were right there. We have kittens, puppies, and young adult dogs that are up for adoption. Please call 285-5448 for inquiries. It's only $30 to take one of them and everybody is spayed and neutered and vaccinate," she added.

Julie Florencondia-Hall of Navy Hill was one of the responders to SCA's call to foster cats. "A friend sent me a message about Saipan Cares for Animals post about the need for fostering. The original plan was to take two cats but I went home with three... I really felt sorry and worried about what might happen to them," she said.

Florencondia-Hall said the cats kept them entertained, making the height of the storm bearable. "They're really fun and friendly and easy to take care of because they're litter trained. My daughter Julianna played with them and we were happy to give the cats a home," she added.

KILILI

From Page 1

He said he re-introduced the bill to leave it as a marker so if he wins and the Democrats take the majority in Congress, the language is already there and could be included in a broader immigration measure.

"The most likely path forward for H.R. 6578 will be to piggyback my legislation on a larger comprehensive immigration bill that a House Democratic majority will no doubt pass in the next Congress," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

"In the meantime, I plan to continue gathering co-sponsors for H.R. 6578, so that as many members as possible understand the bill and support it when the 116th Congress convenes in January."

There are already 32 House members that's supporting H.R. 6578 with Bordallo, Delegate Stacey Plaskett (D-Virgin Islands), and Reps. Hank Johnson (D-Georgia), Rick Nolan (D-Minnesota), and Collin Peterson (D-Minnesota) the latest to back the bill

Sablan said long-term workers gaining improved status would lessen the expenses of employers and, at the same time, do away with worries whether the CW permits would be denied or approved.

"And improved status would finally give our long-term workers and investors, who were granted admission under Commonwealth immigration law, the knowledge that they are permanent members of our community," said Sablan.

He added that the Saipan Chamber of Commerce came out with a letter of support for H.R. 6578 while he is still waiting for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the CNMI Legislature to do the same thing.

Sablan is seeking re-election this November against Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) with the polls set on Nov. 6. They will be having a debate on Thursday, Sept. 20.

Voting issue

On the issue of voting rights by the five members from the U.S. territories and the federal district of Washington, D.C, Sablan said it was a GOP-controlled Congress that stripped them of this.

He added that the five delegates and the resident commissioner from Puerto Rico were able to vote on bills back in the 1993, 2007, and 2009 Congress when the Democrats held the majority. He even had the chance to vote during his first term as CNMI delegate.

"In fact, I voted in the Committee of the Whole during my first term from 2009 to 2010. I was able to vote on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and other key legislation. This allowed the people of the Marianas to see how they were being represented," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune.*

"I think people should know where their representative stands on the issues. So, I am sorry that the Republicans took away the right to vote from the Marianas and all the other delegates, when Republicans regained the majority in 2011."

Sablan added that the Republicans even challenged the voting privilege of the delegates and resident commissioner in the Committee of the Whole when it was first put in place in 1993 but the court upheld it.

The issue came out after Bordallo (D-GU) proposed to amend the U.S. House of Representatives' standing rules to provide additional privileges for the delegates and the resident commissioner when the 116th Congress convenes in January 2019.

Bordallo's proposed bipartisan rule changes would restore the voting privileges of the delegates and the resident commissioner on legislation and amendments, give them the ability to vote to elect the House speaker, and clarify the authority to serve on joint committees with other House and Senate members.

ATALIG

From Page 1

public servants."

"The jury in this case will have a wonderful opportunity to write an injustice and force the federal government to be more careful in not to jump into conclusions," he added.

Atalig appeared with O'Connor during a status conference yesterday morning before U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy.

O'Connor said although he is appearing for the mayor for this status conference, he will most likely be appearing with co-counsel David Banes in this matter.

The status conference was held as the judge wants to see if the mayor has retained a private counsel to represent him in the federal case.

O'Connor noted that Atalig had just retained his office as of Monday to serve as his counsel.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley told the court that the prosecution would likely be seeing superseding indictment with additional charges that may affect the October trial date.

O'Malley also stated that the pretrial motion deadline is today, Wednesday.

O'Connor asked for a one-week continuance to file pre-trial motions. Kennedy granted O'Connor's request; the pretrial motions deadline as reset to Sept. 26, 2018.

Kennedy said the trial date and motions in limine, however, will remain the same. In U.S. law, a motion in limine is a motion, discussed outside the presence of the jury, to request that certain testimony be excluded.

Citing that Atalig is still a mayor and is out on own cognizance, O'Malley asked the court that the defendant be ordered not to discuss anything related to the case with any potential witnesses.

A federal grand jury indicted the 57-year-old Atalig after he allegedly arranged a government-funded trip from Rota to Guam for himself and 12 others, including eight municipal employees, on an allegedly false claim that he was going to check for surplus equipment at the Naval Base in Guam. The indictment alleges that the mayor actually went there to participate in a partisan political rally last June 23 in Mangilao.

The indictment charged the mayor with only one count of wire fraud. He had already pleaded not guilty.

Atalig is facing another case that the Office of the Attorney General filed before the Superior Court arising from the same political rally.

In the Superior Court case, Atalig and seven other Rota municipal officials are charged each with theft and misconduct in public office. Their arraignment will be on Sept. 28, 2018.

PUBLIC

From Page 1

with the Senate passing it last month without amendments a few weeks after the House acted on it.

Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) introduced the same bill authored by Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) in the Senate, since all revenue-generating legislation should originate from the House.

Torres said H.B. 20-178 is a critical piece of legislation for the CNMI as it would greatly have an impact on the lives of the community once it becomes a law. "I think the [marijuana] bill would definitely change our lives if it does become law."

He mentioned that the same thing has happened to states in the mainland U.S. that have passed some sort of cannabis or marijuana legislation. Nine states and Washington, D.C. legalized recreational marijuana use while 30 allowed medical cannabis.

Last year, Oregon generated $85 million on marijuana tax revenues that was used to fund their schools, public health, police, and other local government programs, according to oregonlive.com.

Colorado, Washington State, Alaska, Oregon, California, Massachusetts, Nevada, and Washington, D.C. have already passed laws that tax, legalize, and regulate marijuana use either for medicinal or recreational purposes.

"I would like to do public education on the actual bill itself. What to expect if it does go through? [Discuss] some of the data that the committees had given and gathered," said Torres, who has until Sept. 23 to either sign the bill into law or not.

"This is a collaborative effort. I know that both the House and Senate held public hearings, which was an opportunity for the community to share their comments on the issue."

He added that although they are focused on the recovery and relief efforts for Rota, they are also discussing the marijuana bill. "We're meeting on the [cannabis] issue and I am reviewing the comments made on the cannabis bill."

A growing number of research and studies show the medical use of marijuana treats pain, nausea, and loss of appetite, Parkinson's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, post-traumatic stress disorder, epilepsy, and multiple sclerosis.

Marianas among Top 10 semi-guided destinations

The Marianas is among the Top 10 favorite destinations for Chinese tourists taking semi-guided tours, according to Tuniu, one of the top online travel agencies in China.

File photo of tourists interact with residents at the International Festival of Cultures in September 2016. The Marianas is among the Top 10 favorite destinations for Chinese tourists taking semi-guided tours, according to Tuniu, one of the top online travel agencies in China. MVA

In its Online Outbound Tourism Consumption Report for the first half of 2018, Tuniu noted that Saipan and the Marianas are ranked as the eighth most popular semi-guided travel destinations, beating all our competitors in Micronesia and the Pacific. In descending order, the countries named were Japan, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Saipan, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka.

Visitors from China comprise nearly 40 percent of the 507,116 total visitors that have travelled to the Marianas so far this fiscal year, according to the Marianas Visitors Authority.

"China is the second largest source market for Marianas tourism, second only to South Korea, and a critical part of our tourism economy," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "The conditional parole program for Chinese tourism, our proximity to China, and the increasing frequency of direct flights have all contributed to this growth."

The average Chinese visitors spends at least three nights in the Marianas, with an average of most self-guided tours being two days.

The general travel trends for Chinese residents continue to change and an increase in outbound travel is noticeable, according to the report. The number of outbound Chinese tourists has grown 15 percent in 2018 compared to the same period last year, reaching 71,310,000 tourists to date. ***(MVA)***

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2 To qualify for the YesSavings premium rate, during each statement period, a minimum deposit of $100 is required, no withdrawals can be made, and the YesSavings account must be linked to a First Hawaiian Bank checking account. The Regular Savings rate in effect will apply for any statement period where the account did not qualify for the YesSavings premium rate. There is no minimum balance required to obtain the premium rate.

Torres thanks Trump

Last Friday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres wrote President Donald J. Trump to thank him for acting on his request for an emergency declaration in anticipation of Typhoon Mangkhut and for the ongoing federal response led by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

» For emergency declaration, federal response after Mangkhut

"I write to offer my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your response in the aftermath of Typhoon Mangkhut. Your swift response in authorizing the Department of Homeland Security and [FEMA] to provide emergency protective measures have given the CNMI tremendous support to recover and protect the lives of our people," Torres said in his letter to Trump.

"Already, the partnership you have provided to the CNMI with FEMA and the U.S. Department of Defense has seen a rapid recovery of the power, water, and transportation systems in the most affected island of Rota. As we continue to assess the damage on all three of our most populated islands, we are strengthened by the federal team you have provided and the support for our people you have showcased."

"President Trump, I thank you on behalf of the people of the CNMI for your attention and compassion during this natural disaster. You have my deepest gratitude for remembering and caring for the many Americans that call the CNMI home, these 8,000 miles from Washington, DC. As we continue to assess the damages and rebuild, I look forward to working with your team and providing you with further updates on our situation," Torres wrote.

Damage assessments on all three islands are nearing completion with the governor's formal request for a major disaster declaration expected to be sent to the White House this week. The major disaster declaration includes other federal programs that were not a part of the emergency declaration. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857 • Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com

AGENDA

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 24, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (Technology Room) in Susupe, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:

A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes: August 30, 2018

II. REPORTS:

A. Report by the Chairman
B. Report by the Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:

A. Casino Licensee (IPI) Updates:
1. Construction Progress – Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel (Imperial Palace)
2. IPI Personnel: a) Resident Employment Objectives & CLA Annual Plan b) Status of the H2B Workers
3. Responsible Gaming Program
4. Compliance Committee
5. Other Miscellaneous Matters

B. Other Matters

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. House Bill 20-82, HD1: Update

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of conditional Regular Junket Operator Licenses (2-Year Licenses):
1. Applicant: **High Tides (CNMI), LLC.** Principal: Mr. Dong, Jiming ("Hui")
2. Applicant: **Stellar Paradise CNMI, LLC.** Principal: Mr. Ma, Hongyi
3. Applicant: **Bula Mula, LLC.** Principal: Mr. Zhang, Hong
4. Applicant: **Hengqin Guiji, LLC.** Principal: Ms. Ren, Ni ("Lili")

B. Consideration and Adoption of **CCC Order 2018-005:** Order Consenting to Pledge License as Collateral and Permitting the Granting of Security Interests.
C. Consideration for Adoption for Public Comments - Proposed changes to the Casino Regulations: * To add §175-10.1-1865 ***Minimum Working Capital Requirements.***
D. Approval for Regular Casino Key Employee (CKE) License (2-years):
* Tong, Chi Kit ("Vincent") – Vice President, Compliance (Provisional License Expires on 10/05/18).
E. Approval for Regular Casino Vendor License (2-years) – Non-Gaming:
* Phoenix Services, Inc. Marina Management Services (Provisional License Expires on 10/01/18).

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. IPI Financial Matters
B. Report by the CCC Audit Division
C. Report by the Legal Counsel

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reserves the right to amend this agenda and take action on the amended agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910(b). Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary.

/s/ **Juan M. Sablan**
Chairman

MCS senior recognized at Stanford

Mount Carmel School senior Justin Ocampo was recently recognized at Stanford University by the Junior Statesmen of America, or JSA, as the most outstanding moderator.

Ocampo was selected from over a hundred students for the award, which recognizes JSA statesmen for their mastery of debate and parliamentary procedures.

This past summer was Ocampo's first time participating in the JSA program, which was created by and for young people interested in what happens around them—from politics, to how government works, and contributing to their community.

Since its founding in 1934, JSA has served as a place where students build leadership skills, learn civil debate, and strengthen their engagement through volunteering and activism. More than 500,000 students have graduated high school as more active, informed members of their community as a result of their participation in JSA.

According to Ocampo, "I enjoyed the debates because I got along well with everyone, who brought unique perspectives on social justice that I may have never considered before JSA. ...I recommend JSA for anyone that wants to learn more about their world around them, especially if you're coming from an island like me."

As a Mount Carmel Knight, Ocampo was not alone at this summer's JSA program. He was joined by fellow senior Reica Ramirez, who also happened to be one of a few recipients of the U.S. Department of Interior JSA scholarships.

Ramirez echoed Ocampo's sentiments and urged others to also apply for the program. "You will be able to find your voice and see other people's perspectives about issues you may have not thought about before." She added, "You also realize how important it is to fight apathy and for issues that you believe in." ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School seniors Justin Ocampo, left, and Reica Ramirez, right, and Jinju Thompson participated in the 2018 Junior Statesmen of America program at Stanford University this past summer. Ocampo was recognized as Best Moderator for his program, while Ramirez received one of the few scholars hips offered for the program.

Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Navigating the Human Experience

Call for Nominations
2018 Governor's Humanities Awards

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is accepting nominations for the 2018 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories:

- **Research and Publication in the Humanities;**
- **Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices;**
- **Preservation of CNMI History; and**
- **Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).**

A fifth category, **Lifetime Achievement**, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the Council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Nominations may be made by any member of the general public and **are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 12 October 2018.**

Awards will be presented in a special ceremony in October (time, date and venue to be announced).

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785.

ALLEGED VICTIM TELLS OAG NOT TO PROSECUTE

Case vs man in beating of pregnant kin dismissed

The Superior Court dismissed on Friday the case against a man who allegedly beat up his relative who was then-two months pregnant during an argument over a weighing scale in As Lito last July.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho threw away the case against 39-year-old Victor Hocog Aldan after the Office of the Attorney General moved to drop the case.

Assistant attorney general Frances T. Demapan told the court last Friday that the victim asked the Commonwealth on Aug. 24, 2018, not prosecute this case any further.

Camacho vacated the pretrial conference and the bench trial scheduled for Nov. 14 and Dec. 3, 2018, respectively.

A police detective stated in her report that an eyewitness reported that last July 5, Aldan and another relative confronted the alleged victim about a weighing scale. The confrontation escalated into an argument. Aldan allegedly pushed the victim on the chest and punched her on the left eyebrow and temple. The victim then called the police.

Police said the victim had slight swelling and bruising above her left eyebrow. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

48th Chief Aghurubw Day to be held on Managaha

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2018 Chief Aghurubw Day celebration would be held on Managaha Island—as per tradition—instead of the initial proposal at Micro Beach.

According to Aghurubw Foundation vice president Mark Rabauliman, the initial proposal to hold the celebration at Micro Beach in Garapan, was scrapped after several discussion within the foundation, which is currently headed by president Kodep Ogumoro Uludong.

"It will still be on Managaha. …[Micro Beach] was something to be explored, but majority of the committee voted for it to be held on Managaha," he said.

The 2018 Chief Aghurubw Day celebration, which is the 48th iteration this year, marks the arrival of the first Carolinians in the CNMI. The group was led by Chief Aghurubw. They had come from the Caroline Islands, an archipelago of tiny islands in the southwestern Pacific Ocean, which at the time had just been hit by a powerful storm.

According to Rabauliman, the committee chose Managaha for this year's celebration due to its historical significance. An area in Micro Beach is reportedly the settlement of the very first Carolinians.

Rabauliman clarified that the committee considered Micro Beach in anticipation of a large turnout.

"The committee is expecting a large turnout, but then there are a lot of other functions happening [in the Micro Beach area]," he said. "At the end of the day, you just have to stick with tradition."

The annual event is celebrated every September on the islet.

The foundation vice president noted that while the specifics of the celebration, which is this coming Sep. 29, 2018, has yet to be finalized., the committee is going to reach out to ferry-providers.

Torres acknowledges value of natural and native medicines

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres recognized the benefits of natural and native medicines when he signed a proclamation yesterday declaring Native Medicine Week from Sept. 16 to Sept. 22, 2018, in line with the celebration of Cultural Heritage Month.

Torres noted that both the Chamorro and Carolinian cultures have native medicines in common. He said the proclamation signing acknowledges that local herbs and local healers should be protected and preserved.

"We are trying to designate a land for them to plant the [herbs] that they need," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

Torres was also asked by members of the Amot Natibu, a group advocating for traditional healing through herbs and plants, to push for the inclusion of natural healers in insurance coverage.

"I do not know the extent of actually approving that request," said Torres, adding that he directed Department of Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, who also chairs the insurance committee, to look into the proposal.

"At any rate, I believe it is more important for us to designate some land to protect these plants," he said.

Amot Natibu president Isidoro Cabrera encouraged the public to "continue practicing traditional medicine."

"There are over a hundred…plants used to mix medicines for treating illness. We have been practicing this for thousands of years, and I would like our association to continue promoting this and teach our younger generation," Cabrera said. "[Other islands] also practice this." ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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- Seeking help from others
- Setting goals
- Connecting with others

Family Protective Factors include:
- Supportive families (family connectedness)
- Continuous parental presence
- Spending quality time with family and loved ones
- Religion

Community Protective Factors include:
- A reliable and safe environment
- No access to weapons or any harmful substances
- Participating in community events
- Getting professional care and/or knowing what agencies to contact when you need help

This ad was developed in part under grant number 1H79SM62879-01 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The views, policies, and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or HHS.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND TO AMEND LEASE

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 094 D 05 containing an area of approximately 1,611 square meters, more or less, situated in Garapan, Saipan and will be included in a Second Amendment to Lease Agreement proposing to amend Lease Agreement No. LA12-005S. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands office located on the 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, and website at www.dpl.gov.mp for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Man Bao Corporation. The Directors of Man Bao Corporation are Ping Yin Cheung – President and Beihua Yuan – Vice President/Secretary.

iii. The proposed Second Amendment to Lease Agreement is compliant with DPL regulations. To extent it was negotiated, discussions were by Mr. Ping Yin Cheung.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose to operate a hotel facility.

The term of the proposed Second Amendment will coincide with the initial lease which is 25 years with 19 years remaining.

The proposed annual rental for Lot No. 094 D 05 during the term of the lease in the Second Amendment to Lease Agreement is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property "plus" the applicable percentage of Business Gross Receipts in DPL's regulation.

v. A copy of the proposed Second Amendment to Lease Agreement may be obtained at the office of the Secretary, Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. As of the time of this publication, the Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Garapan, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before 4:00 p.m. September 21, 2018 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIAN I MAPROPONI NA ATKILON TÅNU´ PUPBLIKU PARA U AMENDA I ATKILON

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku mannåná´i guini nutisia put i intensiona ni para u ma´atkila i metton na tanu´ pupbliku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Mariånas. Maseha håyi na pattida ni intirisao gi hålum pupblikun hinerât siña muna´na´hålum upiñon, infotmasion, pat testimoniun kinontra gi tinahguin prinoponi siha para i atkilan nu i tanu´ pupbliku. Kumu mås mo'na mapribeni ginin i Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i tinattitiyi na pettanesin infotmasion manisisita na para u mapupblika.

i. I maproponi na atkilon tanu´ pupbliku madiskribi kumu Lot No. 094 D 05 ni konsisisti kåsi 1,611 square meters, mås pat menus, ni gaigi giya Garapan, Saipan yan debi na u ma´ingklusi gi hålum Segundu na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon ni mapropoponi para u amenda i Kontråtan Atkilon No. LA12-005S. I kopian påttin i lugåt managuaha gi ufisinan Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku ni gaigi gi Sigundu na bibienda, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, yan website gi www.dpl.gov.mp para inspeksion.

ii. I prospective lessee Man Bao Corporation. I Direktot i Man Bao Corporation si Ping Yin Cheung – i Presidenti yan Beihua Yuan – i Sigundu na Presidenti/Sekritåria/Sekritåriu.

iii. I maproponi na Sigundu na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon ha tattiyi i regulasion DPL siha. Para inekstendi ginin manegosiu, i diskuti siha ginin as Siñot Ping Yin Cheung.

iv. I lessee debi na u usa i lugåt put atyu ha´ na rason i aktibidåt fasilidåt i hotel.

I tema nu i maproponi Sigundu na Amendasion debi na u konfotmi yan i fine´ni´na na atkilon gi benti singku (25) åñus na tiempu yan diesi nuebi (19) åñus na tiempu tetenan.

I manmaproponi na atkila gi kada´ såkkan para Lot No. 094 D 05 duråntin i tema nu i atkilon i hålum Sigundu na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon ma´estima gi pusentu i maperitun na bålin fair market i propiedåt "yan mås" i aplikåo na pusentun i Resibun Nina´hålum I Bisnis hålum regulasion i DPL.

v. I kopian nu i maproponi Sigundu na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon siña machuli´ gi ufisinan i Sekritårian, Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku, gaigi gi sigundu (2nd) bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building gi Dandan, giya Saipan, primet (1st) bibienda gi De'Ana Commercial Building, gi Songsong Village, giya Luta; pat i primet (1st) bibienda gi Kings Commercial Building, giya Tinian. I kopia debi lokkui´ na managuaha online gi www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. Kumu gi tiempun nu esti pupblikasion, i Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku ti marisibi ni håfa na tinaguin inefresi siha ni para ma´atkila i suhetu na tanu´ pupbliku gi Garapan, giya Saipan.

vii. I Sekritårian Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku ha aksesepta tinigi´ upiñon, infotmasion, testimoniun kinontra pat alternative proposals ginin i manintirisåo na pattida siha gi pat åntis di 4:00 p.m. gi Septembre 21, 2018 gi ufisinan Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku siha ni gaigi giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

ARONGORONGOL POMMWOL ATKKILÓÓNOL FALUWEER TOULAP REBWE LIIWELI ATKKILÓÓN

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) reel Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulaisyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap ekke attotoowow arongorong reel igha re mángemángil rebwe atkkillay falúw sángi faluweer toulap wóól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw kka Efáng llól Marianas. Schóó kka re mwuschel isiisilong kkapas, data, views, ngáre angiingi reel pommw ngáli atkkilóónol faluweer toulap. Eyoor sángi Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, arongorong ikka e amwirimwiritiw ebwe akkatééwow.

i. Faluweer toulap iye rebwe atkkilaay reel falúw kka, e bwáálo bwe Lot No. 094 D 05, e bwáá bwe 1,611 reel square meters, elapeló ngáre eghus, iye e lo Arabwal, Seipél me ebwe schuulong llól Second Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón bwe re pommw rebwe liiweli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón No. LA12- 005S. Eyoor pappidil falúw yeel me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap iye lo 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, me bwal wóól aar website me www.dpl.gov.mp ngáre u mwuschel amwuri.

ii. Schóól atkkilóón nge Man Bao Corporation. Director-il Man Bao Corporation nge Ping Yin Cheung – President me Beihua Yuan – Vice President/Sekkretóóriya.

iii. Pommwol Second Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón nge e compliant ngáli mwóghutughutúl DPL. Eyoor tool igha re ppwol fengál, mwaliili sángi Mr. Ping Yin Cheung.

iv. Schóól atkkilóón ebwe yááyá falúw reel schagh mwóghutughutúl hotel.

Pommwol mángemángil lappal ráágh reel Second Amendment ebwe e weewe fengál me bweletáál atkkilóón iye e lo bwe ruweigh me limoow ráágh fengál me seigh me tiwoow ráágh luusul.

Reel pommwol óbwóssul ghal llól eew ráágh ngáli Lot No. 094 D 05 atol atkkilóón llól Second Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón nge e lo reel percentage sángi appraised fair market value reel falúw "plus" applicable percentage reel Business Gross Receipts llól mwóghutughutúl DPL.

v. Pappidil pommwol Second Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón emmwel ubwe bweibwogh mereel bwulasiyol Sekkretóóriya, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor reel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building me Dandan, Seipél; 1st floor reel De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Luuta; ngáre 1st floor reel Kings Commercial Building, Tchiliyól. Ebwal yoor pappid yeel online me www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. Atol oral arongorong yeel, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap rese bweibwogh pommw iye re siiweli ngáli atkkilóón iye e lo weiláng reel faluweer toulap me Arabwal, Seipél.

vii. Sekkretóóriyal Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap emmwelil bweibwogh ischil mángemáng, views, angiingi ngáre pommw iye re siiweli sángi schóó kka re mwuschel wóól ngáre mmwalil 4:00 p.m. Maan 21, 2018 me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap iye e lo Seipél, Luuta ngáre Tchiliyól.

3rd suspect in clandestine 'ice' lab case pleads guilty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of five men charged over an alleged clandestine "ice" laboratory on Saipan pleaded guilty in federal court Monday afternoon.

Vincent David Cabrera Jr. pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture crystal methamphetamine as part of a plea deal.

The offense carries a maximum penalty of not more than 20 years in prison, a fine not exceeding $1 million, supervised release of not less than three years, restitution, and a $100 special penalty.

Under the plea deal, Cabrera's prison sentence will range from 210 to 240 months because the statutory maximum for the offense to which he pleaded guilty to is 20 years.

Kennedy

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy recommended that Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona accept the plea.

Cabrera's jury trial set for Oct. 2 was vacated.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe and Cabrera's court-appointed counsel Benjamin Petersburg, did not object to unsealing of the plea deal.

According to Cabrera's factual admissions, between July 1, 2017, and Feb. 25, 2018, he, along with Eugene Blas Repeki Jr., Rick Urumelog Omar Jr., Sidney Capelle Kani, and others, agreed to make 'ice." Cabrera said he knew of this and agreed to help. He, including Repeki, Omar, and Kani, bought items between July 1, 2017, and Feb. 25, 2018, to make "ice," either to smoke it themselves or sell it.

Cabrera admitted maintaining a room at the Vegas Resort Hotel to make or use "ice."

Last Friday, Repeki, also known as Uncle, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

Last May, David Muna Sablan pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

Mangkhut delays Field of Heroes

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tan Siu Lin Foundation and TanHoldings representatives accept $3,000 from IT&E for sponsorship of the 2018 Field of Heroes. From left, Carline Sablan, community relations director, TanHoldings; Mel Naputi, administrative officer, Tan Siu Lin Foundation; Janice Tenorio, customer service manager, IT&E; Michelle Camacho-Cruz, marketing coordinator, IT&E; Megan Aglipay, media assistant, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, and Catherine Attao, vice president for corporate affairs and corporate human resources, TanHoldings.

Typhoon Mangkhut has postponed the 2018 Field of Heroes on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The display of U.S. flags was originally scheduled for Sept 9-17 at the American Memorial Park on Saipan, Sept 3-17 at the Veterans Memorial Park on Tinian, and Sept 7-22 at the Joaquin Ogo Baseball Field on Rota.

Catherine Attao-Toves, TanHoldings vice president for corporate affairs and human resources, announced the decision on social media after a heavy weather briefing at the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management the Saturday before Typhoon Mangkhut made landfall in the Marianas.

The Field of Heroes consists of more than 650 U.S. flags on display at field sites on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Flags are flown throughout the display period to honor and pay tribute to the victims of the Sept. 11 terror attacks and everyday community heroes—military veterans, military service members, police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, law enforcement officers, disaster responders, and all other first responders.

According to Attao-Toves, "Event organizers and sponsors hope the flag displays help our community reflect on the lives lost on Sept 11, 2001, to show appreciation to all community heroes including military service members and veterans who put their lives on the line to protect our rights and freedom and, of course, our first responders for their courage running into disaster areas when everyone else is running out."

New dates for the display of flags, tribute ceremonies and related events will be announced once the islands and communities are stabilized.

Net proceeds from the event will be donated to the Northern Mariana Islands Humanities Council to go toward providing local support for post-traumatic stress disorder.

The 2018 Field of Heroes is brought to you by: presenting sponsor: Tan Holdings, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation; field sponsors: National Park Service/American Memorial Park, Tinian Mayor's Office, Rota Mayor's Office; heritage sponsors: IT&E, Sorensen Media Group/Power 99; stars & stripes sponsors: E-Land Group, *Marianas Variety,* J.C. Tenorio Ent. Inc., Hyatt Regency Saipan, Hotel Valentino, Saipan Mayor's Office, TakeCare; patron sponsors: Bank of Hawaii, First Hawaiian Bank, Docomo Pacific, Express Financial, GPPC, J.C.A. Inc. dba McDonald's of Saipan, MARPAC, Shirley's Coffee Shop, Triple J Saipan, Inc., and many other sponsors. ***(PR)***

Invitation to traditional healers

The Association of Native Medicine and Culture (Inetnun Åmut yan Kutturan Natibu/Mwiischil Safey me Kkoor Aramasal Faluw) is inviting all traditional healers to attend a special meeting on Saturday, Sept. 22, at 9am at the Indigenous Affairs Office on Capital Hill (Building 1213) which is across from the WIA Office building and below the Board of Parole building on Capitol Hill Road. The purpose of the meeting is to share information on how the community can assist traditional healers practice their skills. A speaker from the *Håya* Foundation in Guam will also be there to share some successful practices with traditional healers in Guam. ***(PR)***

The CNMI STEP Team. From left, Oscar Camacho, Commonwealth Development Authority, Nicole Babauta, CNMI Small Business Development Center, Dave Maratita, director of Alcohol, Beverage, and Tobacco Control; Kenneth Lujan, Small Business Administration; Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman; Frank Cabrera, CNMI Department of Commerce; and Michael Camacho, Commonwealth Development Authority. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI awarded $150,000 in STEP grant funding

The U.S. Small Business Administration has awarded the CNMI $150,000 in State Trade Expansion Program grant funds for small business export planning and advertising.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who announced the CNMI being awarded the grant yesterday, said this is the second straight year for the CNMI to be a recipient of the 2018 STEP Program funding opportunity. The STEP grant is highly competitive.

STEP is designed to increase both the number of small businesses that begin to export and the value of exports for small businesses currently exporting. Expanding the base of small business exporters and making the process as easy as possible is a key component of the U.S. and the CNMI's small business strategy.

» Second STEP grant award for the second straight year

The successful submission of the CNMI's application for the Fiscal Year 2018 STEP Grant opportunity demonstrates the commitment of this Administration to expanding the program in order to afford more small businesses to participate in the CNMI's export initiative.

In 2017, the CNMI was awarded $142,000 in STEP funds, for a two-year period, which is now working its way toward the fourth quarter into the program, which will end by 2019. The 2018 STEP award of $150,000 will be an additional two-year period funding, which ends by 2020.

"The STEP program is an essential federal program that provides our small businesses here in the CNMI with the tools they need to succeed within a more globalized economy. I once again commend the CNMI Department of Commerce for being proactive in helping us expand our product reach to not only our historical markets, but also the rest of the world," Torres said.

Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman said the STEP program is designed to increase both the number of small businesses that begin to export and the value of exports for small businesses currently exporting.

"Expanding the base of small business exporters and making the process as easy as possible is a key component of the administration's small business strategy. The initial 2017 STEP funding was used to conduct a comprehensive outreach to businesses on how to advertise their products to off-island markets, particularly the Asian markets. The goal was to enhance our export capability here in the Northern Mariana Islands, which drew in new to export businesses from Saipan (five), Tinian (two), and Rota (three). The 2018 STEP award will essentially provide additional funding as we continue to expand into the CNMI's STEP program," Rabauliman added.

The STEP grant funding allows states to assist small businesses with the information and tools they need to succeed in export related activities that are in line with the objectives of the program. These objectives include participation in foreign trade missions, foreign market sales trips, services provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce, as well as design of international marketing campaigns, export trade show exhibits, training workshops and more.

STEP awards are managed and provided at the local level by state government organizations. The program is managed at the national level by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of International Trade.

For assistance or need more information regarding the CNMI STEP program, contact Frank Cabrera, CNMI STEP project coordinator, at 664-3000 or Oscar Camacho, CNMI STEP project adviser, at 234-6245, Ext. 314. ***(PR)***

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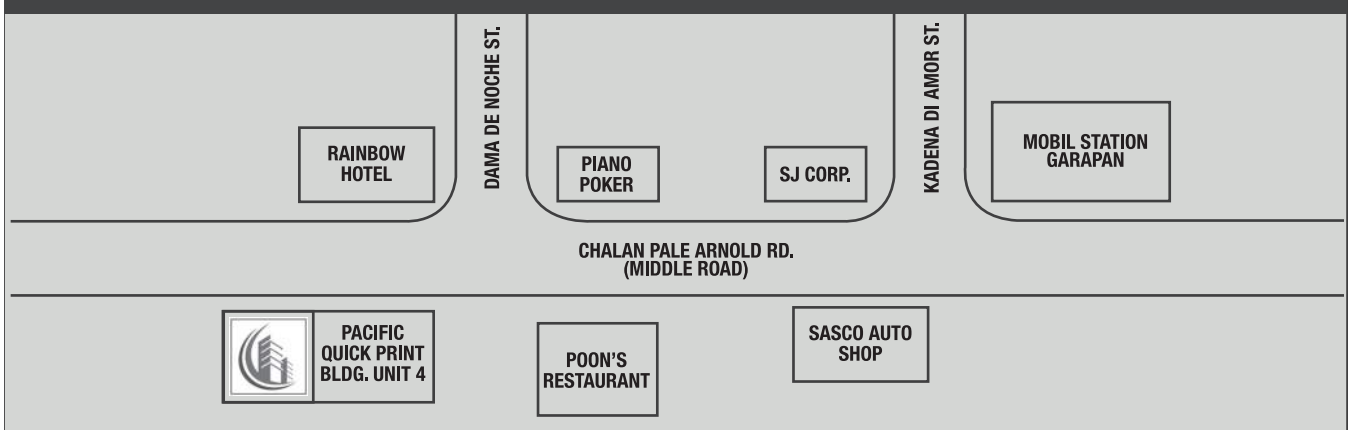

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Opinion

Hafa Adai
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

FDA should drive a wedge between teens & vaping

For those in favor of tighter regulations on everything from student loans to carbon emissions, there's not a lot of joy coming out of the federal government. But credit the Food and Drug Administration for ordering Juul Labs and other vaping device-makers to find a way to keep electronic cigarettes away from teens.

The FDA also issued warning letters and fines to retailers caught selling e-cigarettes to anyone under age 18, as required by federal law.

The FDA gave the makers of e-cigarettes 60 days to show they can keep the devices from minors. If an adequate plan is not implemented, the agency warned it may remove the products from the market.

Let's hope the FDA is prepared to follow through on its warning. After all, it is a safe bet the e-cigarette industry will not police itself. If anything, the industry will develop some bogus guidelines to string everyone along while still peddling its addictive products.

Efforts to warn teens about the ills of cigarette smoking have been largely successful. But in just a few years, teen vaping has reached "an epidemic proportion," FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said this week. More than 2 million middle and high school students are regular users of e-cigarettes.

E-cigarettes were initially touted as a way to help adults quit smoking. But thanks to slick marketing and heavy promotion on social media, e-cigarette sales have exploded among teens since 2015.

Much of the growth is due to teens "Juuling." Juul is the dominate seller of the sleek vaping device, which resembles a computer flash drive. But Big Tobacco firms have also jumped in, using their same old tricks to sell vaping devices, which cost around $50. Vaping involves puffing on vaporized liquid nicotine, sold separately in pods, as opposed to inhaling burned tobacco with traditional cigarettes. Vaping is believed to be somewhat healthier than cigarettes, but the full effects are still emerging.

Research has found vaping causes more adolescents to try cigarettes. One study found increased levels of carcinogenic compounds in the urine of teens who vape. Another study linked the chemical used to flavor some vape juice to so-called popcorn lung. Vaping is also addictive. "The nicotine in these products can rewire an adolescent's brain, leading to years of addiction," Gottlieb said.

Many schools are battling the explosion of kids hooked on vaping in bathrooms and classrooms. The FDA launched an investigation earlier this year into whether Juul and other makers are intentionally marketing to teens.

Developing regulations that keep e-cigarettes out of the hands of minors, but available to adults is next to impossible. Any benefits of converting adult cigarette smokers to e-cigarettes is outweighed by harmful effects to addicting future generations of kids who otherwise would have never smoked.

Indeed, a study released in July found vaping devices don't help smokers quit, undercutting the product's main pitch. In some instances, individuals have become duel users, smoking cigarettes and vaping.

That is all the more reason why the FDA should ban e-cigarettes before more teens get addicted and more health problems emerge.

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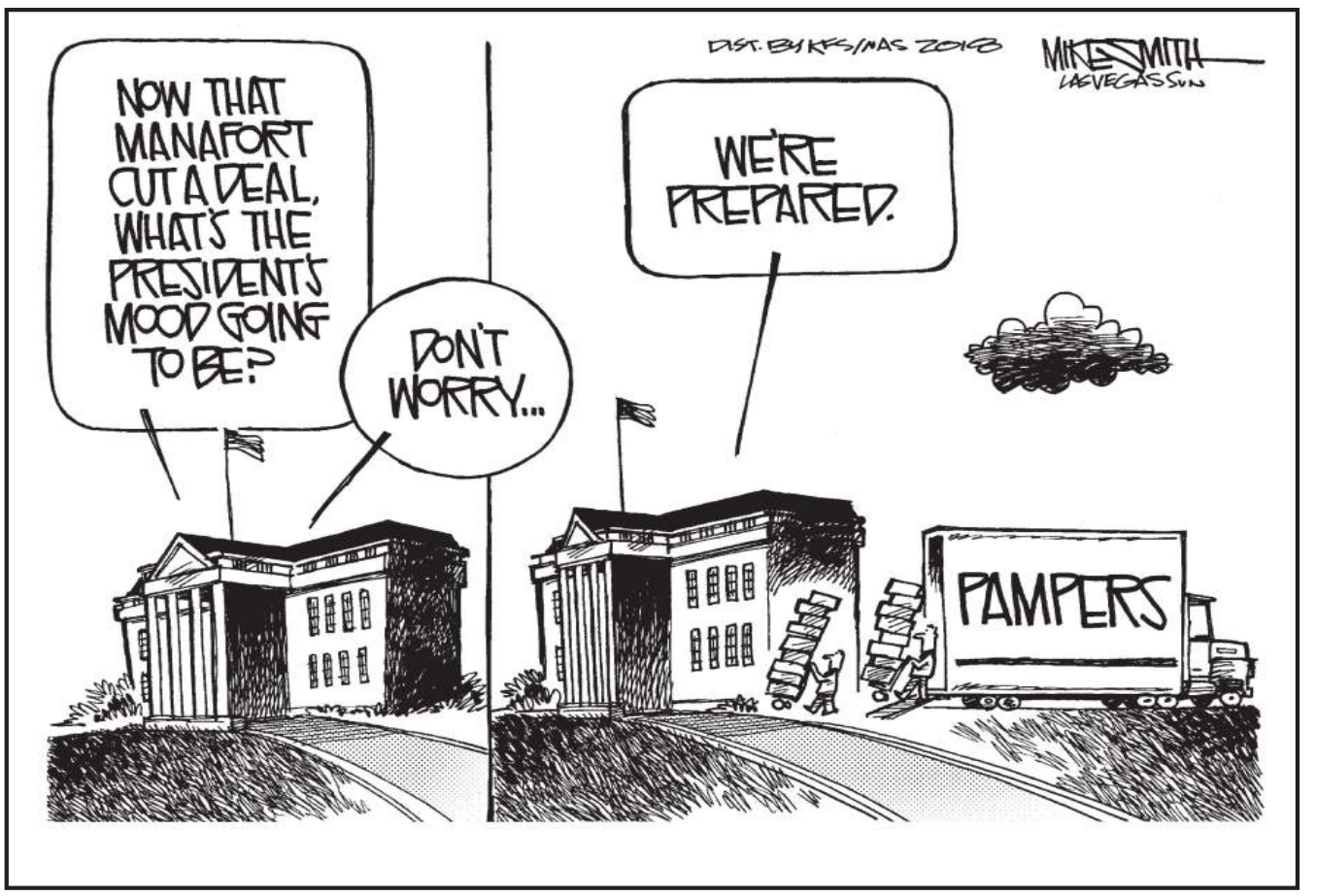

I drove through the hurricane. Don't be like me.

By Josh Shaffer
THE NEWS & OBSERVER (RALEIGH, N.C.)

ROCKINGHAM, N.C.—Driving into Rockingham, N.C., with rain flying sideways, traffic stopped dead and my phone beeping flash-flood warnings, I knew I'd made a terrible mistake.

I tried to drive through Hurricane Florence, and now I was stuck.

Before you call me stupid, let me explain.

As a reporter, I've slogged through Hurricanes Fran, Floyd and Matthew. As a cautious father, I gave up risk-taking around the time I sprouted gray hair. As an avid backpacker, I understand the fierceness of nature.

But after four days in Wilmington without power or Internet service, I thought I'd seen the worst of Florence and could safely navigate the roads back to Raleigh.

I was wrong. Let me sheepishly tell you why in hopes you won't follow my dumb example.

ROBERT WILLETT/RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER/TNS

Amanda Mason and Zack McWilliams on Newport, N.C. walk through waist deep water to take a look at their flooded home off of Nine Foot Road on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 16, 2018. They were displaced on Friday night after fast rising water entered their home from a tributary of the Newport River.

I did a few things right.

I checked the road closings page put out by N.C. DOT. From Wilmington, I could see that much of Interstate 95 had closed and so had part of Interstate 40. But I didn't see anything posted about U.S. 421, so I set out north with three hours of daylight to spare.

I told my wife I was coming, so at least one other person knew my whereabouts. But by the time I hit Pender County, she was able to scroll deeper into DOT's list of hazards and find 421 shut down at Harrells.

Here's where I fished out my stupid hat.

I turned down N.C. 210, hoping to make it to Fayetteville, based on the advice of a trucker I found at a gas station. But five miles down the road, I hit deep water that turned asphalt into a lake. Under no circumstances should you or anybody else cross water deeper than a few inches. I turned around, but by then I'd lost an hour of daylight.

So I tried U.S. 74, a last-ditch exit. DOT's site declared it open except for two lanes in Columbus County, and that post was only a half-hour old. But by the time I got there, the water was flowing across the whole highway, still just shallow enough to see bottom.

So I pressed on.

The point here: DOT is working very hard to provide updates. But Florence is much, much faster.

I thought if I could just reach Rockingham, I could outrun the storm and cut north on U.S. 1. In Wilmington, Florence chugged along at only 2 mph, so I figured I'd punch through the western edge before long.

This was foolishness.

No corner of the state is untouched by Florence. You cannot drive around it—only through.

While I was driving and the sky turned black an hour before sunset, my sainted wife tweeted DOT to ask if U.S. 1 was a viable option, jogging through Laurinburg on U.S. 1.

The response: Absolutely not.

Like every other northbound route, U.S. 1 had closed.

Right about this time, traffic stopped completely. I could only see tail lights in front of me. I saw no headlights coming the other way. I sat there with maybe 20 other cars for approximately 30 minutes, not moving, while my phone beeped out warnings.

While I sat there in the dark, I imagined spending the night inside my pickup. I didn't know if we were crossing a river, and I imagined water rising around the tires. If that happened, I figured, I'd climb on the back of the tow-truck in front of me and bang on the window, asking the driver to let me inside. Worst-case scenarios become frightfully likely in a hurricane.

But then cars started moving, and we headed west again. I have no idea why we stopped, and I didn't investigate. I just drove west and didn't stop until I hit Monroe and the Holiday Inn Express.

I had driven 177 miles to find safety. It took five hours, and I got farther away from home and scared my family needlessly.

The storm was raging in Monroe when I left to catch I-85 in Charlotte and eventually back to Raleigh. But the water hadn't crossed the road anywhere along the route by Sunday morning, so I made an easy trip back to Raleigh.

This will change. Probably by the time I finish typing this sentence.

When I checked conditions this morning, DOT reported roads unsafe anywhere south of U.S. 64 and east of Interstate 74—a huge chunk of the state.

I'll go them one better. Stay home. Eat pop tarts. Watch a movie. Live to tell the story.

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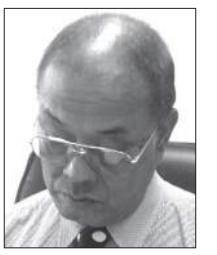


By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

`Nai ma-amut i familia ni guma` niha ensegidas dinisplanta gi un` te`ug na pinadesi. I satbasion gaige solu gi familia.

Mina` ta komprendi pot ta tuñgu` pinadesin tautau piot ayu i man-ginacha` probleman moneda. Dispues ta komprendi impottansian inetnun familia diariu.

Sumuha i familia ginen pisun guma` `nai gaige i fitme yan suanu na disposision siha. Estague` i primera chinatsaga.

Haf` tinateña este na chinatsaga? Kau diskuidu pat pot tinahuñg fuetsan monedan familia? Yangin pot suetdu, kau guaha gi halum i dos asagua pumara macho`chu`? Haf` i motibu?

Pettinenti na kuestion siha pot para tali`e haf` sessu sumasapet i natibu gi modenu na kinalamten guine. Seguruyu` na ti pot cho`chu`. Gai kalulot mas i asuntu ke haf` gaige gi supin tasi.

Puntu: Areglun familia gaige tinituhoña gi halum sagradu na guma` familia. Sin este siempre matompu` gi kareran niha.

Silensiu: Hu ekuñgug ñaihon man-malag manu i kandidatu siha pot inipus silensiu i tanu`. Namanman pot kulan guaha un` dañkulun bela gi señgsuñg siha. Haf` mohon pinadesin niniha na man-mamat kilu?

Ansianu-yu` kumetuñgu` haf` guaha gi papa` mañgas chininan niha. Haf` na asuntu in` li`e mas tagfena gi tautau-ta? Siña in` gachuñge ham gi fina` homlu` na konbetsasion?

Ti pot hafa lau mahalañg-yu` umekuñgug pot "kanamia" (ekonomia) ni sessu mafa` fagas pachot niha. Hu konsidedera kau guaha `nai machule` "basic economics" (101) na mampus manlagse` kulan professot?

Lau gigon un` fuegu dichu kuestion pot ekonomia repara sa` todu umaka` hila` niha yan man-mamatkilu. Kustumbren chanseru gi ti fafayin niha.

MV Luta: Namagof i pinetsigen Attorney General gi $400,000 ni mana`e kompanian MV Luta. Ha tutuhun dumimanda dokumentu siha haf` guaha na disposision gi este na salape` publiku.

Deste ñgai`an masedi un` kompania umayau fondun publiku ginen i gobietnu? Gai dadalag este ya todu asuntu ni kumilulug huyuñg gi agapa` debi u talag halum gi akague! Kumbalache!

Programa: Guaha siha programan federat mahahanan para u fan ma-utut fondun niha. Unu i Medicaid ni kumukubre mamopble siha gi gastun hospitat. Makat na obligasion `an para siha i man-namase` para u kubre este na gastu.

I rason na sessu mahanan este yan fondun social security pot man-amku` rumesisibe ya taya` tumatachu para u fan dinifende nesessidat niha. Siempre tali`e haf` para uttimoña este dispues de eleksion pa`gu na Nobiembre gi enteru iya America. Presisu na u madefendi este na programa antes de uma-utut enteramienti.

**Guma`:** `Nai echu tautau i prohimu ha intensiona umasagua. I primet asuntu ha rikonose manu `nai para u liheñg yan i asaguaña dispues de fandañgo.

Kutturan natibu i debi un` gai gima` antes de un` establesi familia-mu mismu. Maseha gaige este gi kustumbre megai na tinituhun umatrebi siha atkilon, mahatsan dikiki` na fina` kuattu gi gima` mañainan niha. Adumididi` sige ma-espiha taimanu `nai para u independeti kumu nuebu na familia.

Huñgan guaha programan guma` `sino bañku `nai siña umayau i dos umasagua para umakahat gima` niha. I dañkulu na dibina kau nahuñg suetdun niha kontra i maplaneneha para umaayau na kantida? I tetehnan `nai sige i dos mona gi linala` niha.

Gi hinassog-hu trabiha megai gi tautau-ta ti lumañgag man-ayau salape` gi bañku para guma` familia. Estague` `nai tumalag halum gi ta elihe siha na señores yan señoras haf` na planu guaha para u fan ma-ayuda este na mañeluta humatsa i primet na guma` familia. Guaha mohon amtau na programa in` otganisa pot este na asuntu?

Chatsaga: Maseha i tautau-ta ma-ususuni obligasion familia, klaru na megai man-mamatmus gi sisonyan te`ug na chinatsaga.

I tagpapa` suetdu na pisu `nai libianu un` taitai manu na eskaleran kualidat lina`la` `nai mangaige. Maseha mafatkiluye i mattiru makat na kontrariu diariu. Mauleg sa` ni unu sumeha fumachuchu`e apas obligasion siha.

`Nos kuantos man-figu` na dibin obligasion mafafana` i familia kada mes: neñkanu`, kandet, guma`, kareta yan hospitat. Unu ya ma-apase mapega i tetehnan esta i otru pagamientu. Ni este na sakrifisiu trabiha makat para i familia.

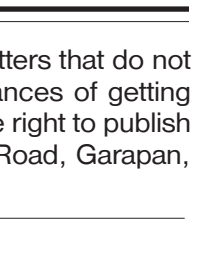
Ira: Tres ira sumapet `nos kuantus nasion gi enteru elmundu: kimason, pagyu yan dilubiu. Iya California mit pot mit hektarias kimason na halum tanu`.

Japon yan nasion giya Asia pinalo`pu kantidan uchan. Kontodu tanu` gi fina` hogsu` mansulun ya ha tampe papa` enteru soñgsuñg `nai megai man-matai.

Lokue`, pa`gu hulili`e pagyu ha hatme estadu giya America (North Carolina yan Georgia). Mauleg na destrosiu ha fuegu gi todu dos bandan tasi. Guaha kase dos miyon na tautau dumiñgu i dos estadu `nai sige guatu i pagyu.

Guine giya Marianas kabales kinumplen misteriun numeru tres: Pagyun Pongsona fumuegu Guam, Soudelor pumanas Saipan yan Mangkhut ha yalaka` Luta. Dañkulu na destrosiu gi todu tres islas. Puede mansoplu hit ginen haf` na linau pot kulan sessu entalu` Indonesia yan Japon.

Dear Soon-Yi, you're a sex abuse victim, too



By LINDA STASI
New York Daily News

Dear Soon-Yi,

Sure, your husband, Woody Allen, is a comic genius. But then again, so is Louie C.K.

Yes, your husband created some of the most iconic, beloved, breakthrough films of the 20th century. But so did Roman Polanski.

Of course, your husband made some of the greatest thought-provoking movies of all time. So did Harvey Weinstein.

No, your husband has not been treated unfairly. Quite the opposite. But you are in too deep to even consider it.

OK, perhaps your childhood with Mia Farrow WAS as horrific as you recently told your friend Daphne Merkin in New York magazine it was—although there is no evidence from any of your siblings that your mother ever abused you after she saved you as a little child from life on the streets in Seoul.

Make no mistake, the husband you defend as being so unfairly treated now was allegedly such a child hunter back then, according to your stepsister Dylan (whom he adopted), that he abused her in the attic of your mother's home. Even the idea of such perversion is still mind-blowing after all these years.

And yet you say your 35-years-older husband is the one being treated unfairly? It's more like he was treated fairly unfairly for decades.

You complain of abuse while you were living in luxury with your mother and 13 siblings, and yet fiercely defend your husband against Dylan, who has written about the sexual abuse she says she suffered at his hands.

Hell, he had a sick relationship with you—when you were still living under your mother's roof.

Do you think it's for no reason that your brother Ronan has made outing sexual abusers his life's work?

If your mother, Mia, had one failing as a mother, it was in trusting her companion and lover to be around her children even though he announced to the world in funny movie after funny movie that he had a disgustingly unhealthy lust for young girls.

In retrospect, there is nothing funny about old men lusting after innocent young girls—of which you were one. But then again, we all laughed about the casting couch, too, until #MeToo showed us it was no laughing matter and that it was, and is, a crime.

In "Manhattan" for example, his character is a 42-year-old guy dating a 17-year-old girl. He even brags to people that his girlfriend is still in high school.

NICOLAS BRIQUET/ABACA PRESS/TNS

Woody Allen and Soon-Yi Previn arriving at the Palais des Festivals for the screening of the film Irrational Man as part of the 68th Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, France on May 15, 2015.

In "Love and Death," a character named Father Andre jokes, "I have lived many years and, after many trials and tribulations, I have come to the conclusion that the best thing is ... blond 12-year-old girls. Two of them, whenever possible."

Then there's "Crimes and Misdemeanors," wherein his character tells his 12-year old niece that he promised her father on his deathbed that he'd give her a well-rounded education, adding that he probably shouldn't take her to the movies every day, but just once in a while, "even though I'd love to ... "

But unlike many of the Hollywood perverts, your husband went on living the good life, and making movies—too many of them STILL about old men and young girls. And being lauded for it.

In 2014, for example, the phony Golden Globes awarded him the Cecil B. DeMille prize and his ex-girlfriend Diane Keaton was on hand to accept it, gushing bizarrely about all that your husband has done for women.

If that's unfair, it's because it's so wrong.

In fact, your husband has continued to this day to make movies about underage girls and older men—taking it so far that there is reportedly a perverse sex scene in his latest, "A Rainy Day in New York," in which a 44-year-old man (Jude Law) has sex with a 15-year-old girl (Elle Fanning).

After the fact and after the #MeToo movement, Amazon reportedly shelved the movie. Boo-hoo, your husband wasted $25 million of other people's money. Like they didn't know what the movie was about or the accusations that have dogged him.

Some of that movie's co-stars, such as Selena Gomez and Timothee Chalamet, have since donated all or more of their salaries to Time's Up or other worthy causes. Others have stated regrets that they worked on the film.

But this was all done after it was no longer fashionable to work with or fund accused sexual molesters and pedophiles—and decades after the allegations against your husband had surfaced.

Thing is? You, too, are a victim—but one of your own making.

I have a friend who didn't realize until he was in his 40s that sexual abuse by his priest was an assault, not a relationship.

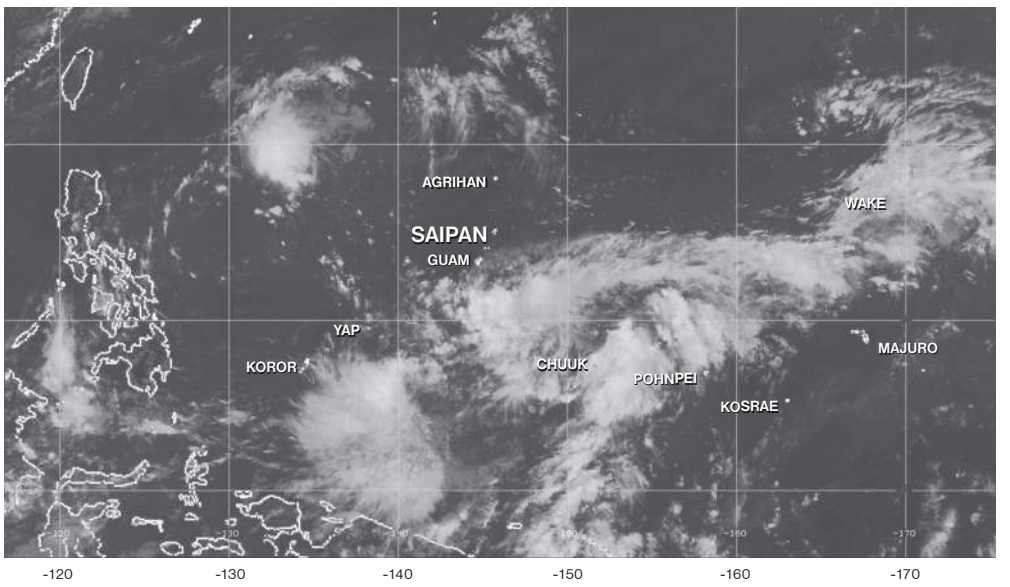
At 47 years of age, you still haven't figured that out. You still denounce your mother as the horror while you sleep with the enemy, who happens to be your mother's former lover.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲85° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:29 AM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Partly cloudy skies are expected to continue over the region for the next few days. A mid-level trough brought isolated thunderstorms to the region over night and the effects of this trough are expected to remain over the region today, mainly over Guam and Rota waters. A weak circulation, currently centered north of Chuuk, near 10N153E, is expected to approach the Marianas later this week. Maintained the inherited forecast for only mostly cloudy skies and isolated showers and thunderstorms for now, however, the models are now showing a bit more development with this system. If the circulation develops as the models are now showing, scattered to numerous showers are possible Friday through the weekend. This will be monitored over the next couple days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	64° / 55°
Beijing	Sunny	84° / 55°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	88° / 79°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	89° / 76°
London	Windy	70° / 59°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	79° / 62°
Manila	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	61° / 46°
Miami	Thunderstorms	89° / 79°
New York	Mostly Sunny	79° / 65°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	79° / 65°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	82° / 57°
Busan	Rain	73° / 72°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	82° / 64°
Salem	Sunny	94° / 72°
San Francisco	Sunny	65° / 52°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	79° / 63°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	77° / 66°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	82° / 65°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:58 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.49
9:37 AM	LOW TIDE	0.20
5:04 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.62
10:33 PM	LOW TIDE	1.13

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:05 AM	6:15 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:15 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:14 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:13 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:02 AM	2:16 PM
Thursday	-	1:51 AM	3:02 PM
Friday	-	2:40 AM	3:46 PM
Saturday	-	3:30 AM	4:28 PM
Sunday	-	4:19 AM	5:09 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

US military completes support to Guam, CNMI after typhoon

By GEORGE MCARTHUR
31ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

Col. Robert Brodie, right, commanding officer of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, shakes hands with Efraim Atalig, left, the mayor of Rota, during a wreath-laying ceremony at the Corporal Joe Junior G. Charfauros Veterans Memorial Park on Rota last Sept. 14, 2018.

U.S. MARINE CORPS/LANCE CPL. HANNAH

Capt. Jim McGovern, left, the commander of Amphibious Squadron 11, Efraim Atalig, middle, the mayor of Rota, and Col. Robert Brodie, right, commanding officer of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, stand together during a wreath-laying ceremony at the Corporal Joe Junior G. Charfauros Veterans Memorial Park on Rota last Sept. 14, 2018.

U.S. MARINE CORPS/LANCE CPL. HANNAH

"As we join here today at this memorial, I am not only thankful for Rota's quick recovery but for the brave men that have given their lives in the name of freedom. I salute them and you all. *Semper Fidelis*," reflected Marine Corps Col. Robert Brodie, commanding officer of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit during a wreath-laying ceremony at the Corporal Joe Junior G. Charfauros Veterans Memorial Park on Rota last Sept. 14.

While groups of local police officers, Marines, and sailors stood at attention, Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig hosted the gathering as participants shared mutual appreciation for the positive relationships developed during recent typhoon recovery operations.

The brief observance marked the conclusion of 31st MEU and Amphibious Squadron 11 relief efforts during support to federal agencies and local communities in the wake of Typhoon Mangkhut, which swept through the island chain of Guam and the CNMI on Sept. 10.

From Sept. 9 to 14, the 31st MEU and PHIBRON 11, embarked aboard the amphibious assault ship USS *Wasp* and dock landing ship USS *Ashland*, provided crucial air support including assistance to civil authorities.

Since Sept. 11, Osprey aircraft, Super Stallion helicopters and Seahawk helicopters completed 63 sorties that facilitated over 550 personnel transfers and delivery of around 29,465 lbs of cargo, including drinking water in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and local authorities throughout Guam and the CNMI.

"Our sailors and Marines came here Sept. 9 ready to help the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands," said McGovern. "Plain and simple, USS *Wasp* and USS *Ashland* did an exceptional job maneuvering offshore, and the flight deck crews and pilots went beyond the call to get aircraft loaded with food, supplies and water to those in need. The whole team did a fantastic job."

More than 100 Marines and sailors were sent ashore to assist with debris removal throughout Rota. The troops cleared roadways by hand using chainsaws and axes along nine miles of the island's main road, ensuring future relief efforts directed by FEMA could continue unhindered.

Brodie was grateful that the MEU and PHIBRON Marines and sailors could make a positive contribution to Department of Defense recovery efforts in support of FEMA, Guam and CNMI civil authorities after Typhoon Mangkhut.

"The citizens of this wonderful community have been exceptionally gracious and it was a true pleasure to partner with them and FEMA," said Brodie. "To the mayor and all members of the Rota and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands communities: it has been a privilege to assist in restoring Rota after the effects of the recent typhoon."

Hyatt to celebrate Korean Thanksgiving

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Hyatt Regency Saipan is celebrating Korea's traditional Thanksgiving called the Chuseok Festival. This brings loved ones together to share a meal from recipes that have been handed down through generations, to give thanks for a bountiful year, and to honor one's ancestors.

Hyatt wants this year's Chuseok Festival to be extra special—it will be the first time that Hyatt Regency Saipan will celebrate Chuseok not only for one day but for three days, from Sept. 24 to 26, from 6pm to 9pm at the Kili Café & Terrace. This simulates the manner of how Koreans usually celebrate this event, said Helen Shin, Hyatt Regency Saipan's Korean sales manager.

"Chuseok is a national event and a holiday so that people, especially the ones working in the city, will have time to go home and be with their family.

"We usually start the celebration a day before the actual *Chuseok,* then we celebrate on the day itself and on the third day, [there is] a post-Thanksgiving get-together. It's is really a time for families to bond and give thanks," she added.

Another first—a Korean chef himself arranged Hyatt's menu for the three-day celebration. Chef de cuisine Shawn Lee joined the Hyatt team in April this year. "For this year, I decided to make different themes for different days to highlight Korean food that people will surely love. Korean Royale is the theme of the first day as it will serve ancient imperial dishes, Chuseok dishes will be served on the second day and, since I am from Jeju Island, the third day will be dedicated to Jeju Island's traditional food, which is rarely found outside Jeju."

"There is a variety of flavors and tastes so people will be encouraged to come on those three days because we will serve the best dishes from all over Korea. …All the dishes will be special but my personal favorite is the braised beef… This is special and meaningful as we share food [within] the Korean community on island," he added

Guests will be treated to a range of food like bulgogi salsa with sesame dressing, Korean pancakes and different kinds of kimchi, main dishes that include braised beef, steamed king prawns with vegetable paired with a honey mustard vinegary sauce and an array of Korean desserts like sweet rice cake and yak-gwa (honey cookie), to name a few.

Shin promises that Hyatt will make this "an authentic Chuseok experience for our guests as we put up decorations of traditional Korean royal families, Korean musical instruments, and Korean traditional games."

Dinner costs $60 per person and $40 for Club at the Hyatt members. Reservations are highly recommended. For reservations, call (670) 234-1234 Ext. 26.

Chef de cusine Shawn Lee presents some of the dishes that will be served at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chuseok Festival on Sept. 24-26, from 6pm to 9pm at Kili Cafe & Terrace.

BEA CABRERA

One of the popular Korean dishes, braised beef, will be served at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chuseok Festival on Sept. 24-26, from 6pm to 9pm at Kili Cafe & Terrace.

BEA CABRERA

Steamed king prawns with vegetable is guaranteed to be an instant favorite at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chuseok Festival on Sept. 24-26, from 6pm to 9pm at Kili Cafe & Terrace.

BEA CABRERA

Business

Trump imposes tariffs on $200B more of Chinese goods

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration will impose tariffs on $200 billion more in Chinese goods starting next week, escalating a trade war between the world's two biggest economies and potentially raising prices on goods ranging from handbags to bicycle tires.

The tariffs will start at 10 percent, beginning Monday of next week, and then rise to 25 percent on Jan. 1.

President Donald Trump made the announcement Monday in a move that is sure to ratchet up hostilities between Washington and Beijing. Trump has already imposed 25 percent tariffs on $50 billion in Chinese goods. And China has retaliated in kind, hitting American soybeans, among other goods, in a shot at the president's supporters in the U.S. farm belt.

Beijing has warned that it would hit an additional $60 billion in American goods if Trump ordered more tariffs. If China does retaliate, Trump threatened Monday to add a further $267 billion in Chinese imports to the target list. That would raise the total to $517 billion — covering nearly everything China sells the United States.

AP

In this Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018, photo, a driver looks out from his trishaw decorated with an American flag and Chinese flags in Beijing.

After a public comment period, the administration said Monday that it had withdrawn some items from its preliminary list of $200 billion in Chinese imports to be taxed, including child-safety products like bicycle helmets. And in a victory for Apple Inc. and its American customers, the administration removed smart watches and some other consumer electronics products from the list of goods to be targeted by the new tariffs.

At the same time, the administration said it remains open to negotiations with China.

"China has had many opportunities to fully address our concerns," Trump said in a statement. "I urge China's leaders to take swift action to end their country's unfair trade practices."

The two countries are fighting over Beijing's ambitions to supplant American technological supremacy. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has charged that China is using predatory tactics to obtain foreign technology. These tactics include hacking U.S. companies to steal their trade secrets and forcing them to turn over their know-how in exchange for access to the Chinese market.

Trump has also complained about America's gaping trade deficit — $336 billion last year — with China, its biggest trading partner.

In May, in fact, it looked briefly as if Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He had brokered a truce built around a Chinese offer to buy enough American farm products and liquefied natural gas to put a dent in the trade deficit. But Trump quickly backed away from the truce.

In the first two rounds of tariffs, the Trump administration took care to try to spare American consumers from the direct impact of the import taxes. The tariffs focused on industrial products, not on things Americans buy at the mall or via Amazon.

By expanding the list to $200 billion of Chinese imports, Trump risks spreading the pain to ordinary households. The administration is targeting a bewildering variety of products — from sockeye salmon to baseball gloves to bamboo mats — forcing U.S. companies to scramble for suppliers outside China, absorb the import taxes or pass along the cost to their customers.

In a filing with the government, for instance, Giant Bicycles Inc. of Newbury Park, California, noting that 94 percent of imported bicycles came from China last year, complained that "there is no way our business can shift its supply chain to a new market" to avoid the tariffs and warned "a tariff increase of this magnitude will inevitably be paid for by the American consumer."

1st private moon flight passenger to invite creative guests

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Japanese billionaire Yusaku Maezawa said Monday that he plans to blast off on the first-ever commercial trip around the moon and will invite six to eight artists, architects, designers and other creative people on the weeklong journey.

The SpaceX Big Falcon Rocket is scheduled to make the trip in 2023, Maezawa and company founder Elon Musk announced at an event Monday at its headquarters near Los Angeles.

Maezawa, 42, said he wants his guests to be inspired to create once they return to Earth "to inspire the dreamer in all of us."

"I wish to create amazing works of art for humankind," Maezawa said. "Just thinking about it now gets my heart racing."

Musk said the billionaire will pay "a lot of money" for the lunar orbit but he declined to disclose the exact amount.

He said Maezawa, founder of Japan's largest retail website and one the country's richest people, came to SpaceX with the idea for the flight.

SpaceX founder Elon Musk says the BFR is still in development and will make several unmanned test launches before it takes on passengers. The reusable 118-meter (387-foot) rocket will have its own dedicated passenger ship.

The average distance from Earth to the moon is about 237,685 miles (382,500 kilometers). No one has been there since an Apollo mission in 1972.

The mission will not involve a lunar landing.

On its website, SpaceX is touting the "first passenger on lunar BFR mission," implying there will be more moon trips.

Astronauts last visited the moon during NASA's Apollo program. Twenty-four men flew to the moon from 1968 through 1972 and half of them made it to the lunar surface.

NASA is planning its own lunar flyby with a crew around 2023. The space agency also aims to build a staffed gateway near the moon during the 2020s. The outpost would serve as a stepping-off point for the lunar surface, Mars and points beyond.

Musk outlined a somewhat different SpaceX mission last year. He said then that two people who know each other approached the company about a weeklong flight to the moon and back. He had said that the trip would happen this year. Musk did not name the clients last year or say how much they would pay.

That original mission would have used a Falcon Heavy rocket—the most powerful rocket flying today—and a Dragon crew capsule similar to the one NASA astronauts will use to fly to the International Space Station as early as next year.

The era of space tourism began in 2001 when California businessman Dennis Tito paid for a journey on a Russian rocket to the International Space Station. The trip was organized by the Virginia-based company Space Adventures, which has since sent several more paying customers on spaceflights.

SpaceX already has a long list of firsts, with its sights ultimately set on Mars. It became the first private company to launch a spacecraft into orbit and safely return it to Earth in 2010, and the first commercial enterprise to fly to the space station in 2012 on a supply mission.

Musk's successes have recently been overshadowed by his behavior and the struggles of his Tesla electric car company to deliver.

Coca-Cannabis? Coke analyzing cannabis in wellness drinks

The Coca-Cola Company said Monday it is "closely watching" the expanding use of a cannabis element in drinks, another sign cannabis and cannabis-infused products are getting more acceptance in mainstream culture and a harder look from long-established pillars of American business.

The statement came after reports the beverage giant was in talks with a Canadian cannabis company to create a health drink infused with cannabidiol, a naturally occurring non-psychoactive compound derived from the cannabis plant. Shares of the company, Aurora Cannabis Inc., closed up nearly 17 percent on the Toronto Stock Exchange after the report.

Spokespeople for the companies declined to comment on the report but acknowledged their interest in that segment of the cannabis market.

Cannabidiol, or CBD, does not produce the high commonly associated with marijuana. It is believed by many to have anti-inflammation and pain-relieving properties, and numerous CBD-infused products have emerged recently.

Aurora spokeswoman Heather MacGregor said her company "has expressed specific interest in the infused-beverage space and we intend to enter that market."

A Coke spokesman said the beverage giant has made no such decision.

"Along with many others in the beverage industry, we are closely watching the growth of non-psychoactive CBD as an ingredient in functional wellness beverages around the world. The space is evolving quickly," Coke spokesman Kent Landers said.

Coke's interest is another indication of the growing acceptance of cannabis by established companies and of the importance of Canada to the development of those businesses. Marijuana becomes legal across Canada on Oct. 17. Cannabis companies from the U.S.—where marijuana remains illegal at the federal level—have flocked to Canada to raise funds and establish businesses there.

American companies interested in making a play in the cannabis space can try things out in Canada without risking doing something illegal at home.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
26,062.12	2,888.80	7,895.79
−92.55	−16.18	−114.25
−0.35%	−0.56%	−1.43%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3847	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8445	Russian Ruble	67.9558
British Pound	0.7593	Indian Rupee	71.6643	Singapore Dollar	1.3691
Canadian Dollar	1.3021	Japanese Yen	112.1270	South Korean Won	1101.22
Chinese Yuan	6.7672	Malaysian Ringgit	4.0977	Swiss Franc	0.9610
Euro	0.8535	New Zealand Dollar	1.5138	Taiwan Dollar	30.2853
		Philippine Peso	53.0139	Thailand Baht	32.5215

Nation

Wilmington Isle: Food, water handouts set in isolated city

AP

Cars try to navigate a flooded road leading to Interstate 40 in Castle Hayne, N.C., after damage from Hurricane Florence cut off access to Wilmington, N.C., Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018.

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP)—With one of North Carolina's largest cities still mostly cut off by floodwaters from Hurricane Florence, officials prepared to begin distributing food, water and tarps to Wilmington residents as yet more people were rescued from submerged inland neighborhoods.

Workers will begin handing out supplies to stranded residents in the city of 120,000 people beginning Tuesday morning, county officials say.

One road was opened into Wilmington at least briefly, officials said, and items have been brought into the city by big military trucks and helicopters, which also have been used to pluck hundreds of harried people from atop homes and other structures.

"Thank you," a shirtless Willie Schubert mouthed to members of a Coast Guard helicopter crew who picked up him and his dog Lucky from atop a house encircled by water in Pollocksville on Monday. It wasn't clear how long he had been stranded.

The death toll from Florence rose to at least 32 in three states, with 25 fatalities in North Carolina, as remnants of the once-powerful Category 4 hurricane — now reduced to a rainy, windy mass of low pressure — speeded up toward the heavily populated Northeast.

The victims include a 1-year-old boy who was swept away after his mother drove into floodwaters and lost her grip on him while trying to get back to dry land in North Carolina. Authorities in Virginia said one person was dead after an apparent tornado.

The rain finally stopped and the sun peeked through, but North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper warned that dangerously high water would persist for days. He urged residents who were evacuated from the hardest-hit areas to stay away because of closed roads and catastrophic flooding that submerged entire communities.

"There's too much going on," he told a news conference.

Crews have conducted about 700 rescues in New Hanover County, where Wilmington is located. More than 60 percent of homes and businesses were without power, authorities said. Roads are being cleared and the landfill is open to accept storm refuse.

Mayor Bill Saffo said he was working with the governor's office to get more fuel into Wilmington.

"At this time, things are moving as well as can be in the city," he said.

Compounding problems, downed power lines and broken trees crisscrossed many roads in Wilmington three days after Florence made landfall. The smell of broken pine trees wafted through damaged neighborhoods.

At the White House, President Donald Trump said almost 20,000 military personnel and federal workers were deployed to help with the aftermath.

US slashes number of refugees to 30,000 for next year

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. will slash the number of refugees it will accept for a second straight year, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Monday, insisting amid criticism from human rights groups that the country is still committed to providing sanctuary to people fleeing the world's danger zones.

Up to 30,000 refugees will be allowed into the country next year, down from a cap of 45,000 this year. It will be the lowest ceiling on admissions since the program began in 1980. The announcement comes despite calls from global humanitarian groups that this year's cap of 45,000 was too low.

Pompeo sought to head off potential criticism of the reduction by noting that the U.S. would process more than 280,000 asylum claims in addition to more than 800,000 already inside the country who are awaiting a resolution of their claims.

"These expansive figures continue the United States' long-standing record as the most generous nation in the world when it comes to protection-based immigration and assistance," he said.

The 30,000 cap is the maximum number of refugees the U.S. will admit during the fiscal year that starts Oct. 1. The actual number allowed in could be lower. So far this year, the U.S. has only admitted 20,918 refugees for the fiscal year set to end in two weeks, according to State Department records.

President Barack Obama raised the ceiling to 110,000 in 2017, but the pace slowed dramatically after President Donald Trump took office and issued an executive order addressing refugees. In 2016, the last full year of the Obama administration, the U.S. welcomed nearly 85,000 refugees.

Pompeo said the lower ceiling reflected commitment to aiding families forced to flee their homes by war, persecution or natural disasters while "prioritizing the safety and well-being of the American people." He cited the case of an Iraqi refugee who was arrested in California for killing a policeman in his homeland while fighting for the Islamic State organization.

"This year's proposed refugee ceiling must be considered in the context of the many other forms of protection and assistance offered by the United States," he said, citing U.S. contributions to foreign aid and other forms of humanitarian assistance.

Amnesty International accused the Trump administration of "abandoning" refugees with the lower cap.

"This is the lowest goal in the history of the program, and compounded by this administration's history of creating road block after road block for refugees to arrive, this must be perceived as an all-out attack against our country's ability to resettle refugees both now and in the future," said Ryan Mace of Amnesty International.

Worldwide, there were some 25.4 million refugees last year, according to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, with many more people internally displaced within their home countries. Most aid groups and governments advocate resettlement as a last resort, preferring to allow refugees to return to their homes if conditions improve, rather than permanently moving to another country.

In Carolinas, a question as the rivers rise: Stay or go?

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (AP)—The river seethed a quarter-mile away, bulging from its banks, so the patrol cars circled the neighborhood three times.

"Get out now," a voice boomed from a bullhorn. "This is an emergency."

Waheeda Reese and her 14-year-old daughter, Anissa, were inside watching news reports about drowned towns all over the state and rain that hadn't yet stopped.

"All that water is going to come this way," Anissa said, trying to convince her mother it was time to leave. The city had taped a mandatory evacuation notice to their front door, and a friend in the fire department had called to warn: "I don't want to have to come pick you up in a boat."

They still had 22 hours until a deadline to go, and Waheeda wanted to stay. She pointed out the window and said, wishfully, "Look, I think the rain's letting up."

As the days drag on, Hurricane Florence has taken this deceptive turn: The violent winds that rattled shingles off houses and tore down trees have subsided, and the pounding rain has eased, lulling many in the storm's path into believing they've already weathered the worst of it—even as rivers quietly churn and continue to rise.

The storm has claimed more than 30 lives and an untold number of homes on its slow march across North Carolina, inundating city after city : Wilmington, New Bern, Lumberton. Now authorities are warning that by the time the Cape Fear River in Cumberland County crests Tuesday at 62 feet (19 meters)—27 feet (8 meters) over its flood stage—it will threaten to swamp anything within a mile on either side of it. Its tributary, the Little River, is expected to flood, too.

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The map above shows live stream gauges which are currently flooding and forecasts stream flow volume and velocity – the darker and thicker the river lines indicate heavier water flow volumes.

More than 7,000 people were ordered to evacuate by Sunday afternoon. But many, weary of a storm that's lingered on and on, did their own rough calculus of the odds and decided to stay.

As the Cape Fear River swelled, rescue teams trudged along its banks, pleading with people to get out of its way. Police officers went door to door. The mayor of Fayetteville presented the problem in the starkest of terms: Evacuate or notify your legal next of kin.

Military trucks in rural corners of the county barreled down dirt roads quickly becoming mud pits. "Please go," soldiers asked stubborn residents along the massive river that curls downstream through small towns, farms and rural mobile home parks and into the city of Fayetteville, where the Reeses live in a subdivision that butts up against the bank.

Anissa's friend down the street was evacuating with his family and knocked on her door, begging her and her mother to come. The Reeses had packed their things just in case, tucking important documents in a water-tight bag. They stacked chairs on top of tables and moved all the family photos upstairs. Then they waited to see what would happen.

A few miles away, a high-water rescue team comprising two dozen soldiers from Fort Bragg rested on cots in an arena—preparing for water to surge into neighborhoods and send residents climbing out windows and onto rooftops, a familiar scene since Florence made landfall Friday morning.

Asia

Hope fades in PH for dozens buried in landslides

AP

Rescuers carry a body recovered from the site where victims are believed to have been buried by a landslide triggered by Typhoon Mangkhut as it lashed across Itogon, Benguet province, northern Philippines, Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018.

ITOGON, Philippines (AP)—Dozens of people believed buried in a landslide unleashed by Typhoon Mangkhut in the Philippines probably did not survive, a mayor said Monday, although rescuers kept digging through mud and debris covering a chapel where they had taken shelter.

Of the 40 to 50 miners and their families believed inside the chapel, there is a "99 percent" chance that they all were killed, said Mayor Victorio Palangdan of Itogon, the Benguet province town that was among the hardest hit by the typhoon that struck Saturday.

Mangkhut already is confirmed to have killed 66 people in the Philippines and four in China, where it weakened to a tropical storm as it churned inland Monday.

Palangdan said rescuers have recovered 11 bodies from the muddy avalanche, which covered a former bunkhouse for the miners that had been turned into a chapel. Dozens of people sought shelter there during the storm despite warnings it was dangerous.

"They laughed at our policemen," he said. "They were resisting when our police tried to pull them away. What can we do?"

Police and soldiers were among the hundreds of rescuers with shovels and picks searching for the missing along a mountainside as grief-stricken relatives waited nearby, many of them praying quietly. Bodies in black bags were laid side by side. Those identified were carried away by relatives, some using crude bamboo slings.

Jonalyn Felipe said she had called her husband, Dennis, a small-scale gold miner in Itogon, and told him to return to their home in northern Quirino province as the powerful typhoon approached Friday.

"I was insisting because the storm was strong but he told me not to worry because he said they're safe there," said a weeping Felipe, adding that her husband was last seen chatting with fellow miners in the chapel before it was hit by the collapsing mountainside.

She said she screamed after hearing the news about her husband, and their 4-year-old son sensed what had happened and cried too.

Palangdan said authorities "will not stop until we recover all the bodies."

Itogon resident Roel Ullani helped search for the missing, including several of his cousins and other relatives. "For me, it will just be retrievals," he said.

Many of those who sought cover in the two-story building thought it was sturdy but the storm was just too severe, with the avalanche covering it "in just a few seconds," Ullani said.

Environmental Secretary Roy Cimatu said the government will deploy soldiers and police to stop illegal mining in six mountainous northern provinces, including Benguet, to prevent such tragedies.

Philippine officials say that gold mines tunneled by big mining companies and by unauthorized small miners have made the hillsides unstable and more prone to landslides. Tens of thousands of small-time miners have come in recent years to the mountain provinces from the lowlands and established communities in high-risk areas such as the mountain foothills of Itogon.

On Monday, Mangkhut was still affecting southern China's coast and the provinces of Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan, and rain and strong winds were expected to continue through Tuesday.

The storm was about 200 kilometers (124 miles) west of the city of Nanning in Guangxi region on Monday afternoon, moving in a northwesterly direction and weakening as it progressed. There were no new reports of deaths or serious damage.

Life was gradually returning to normal along the hard-hit southern China coast, where high-rise buildings swayed, coastal hotels flooded and windows were blown out. Rail, airline and ferry services were restored and casinos in the gambling enclave of Macau reopened.

Kim, Moon start possibly most challenging Korean summit yet

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—South Korean President Moon Jae-in arrived in North Korea on Tuesday for his third and possibly most challenging summit yet with leader Kim Jong Un in which he hopes to break an impasse in talks with the United States over the North's denuclearization and breathe energy into his own efforts to expand and improve relations between the Koreas.

In what are by now familiar images of the two Korean leaders hugging and exchanging warm smiles, Kim greeted Moon at Pyongyang's airport. They walked together past cheering crowds and a military honor guard, and then drove into the city, where security was higher than usual.

Traveling with Moon are business tycoons including Samsung scion Lee Jae-yong, underscoring Moon's hopes to expand cross-border business projects. Currently, all major joint projects between the Koreas are stalled because of U.S.-led sanctions.

Moon was expected to have talks with Kim on Tuesday and Wednesday, according to Moon's chief of staff. Moon and Kim were also expected to jointly announce the results of their talks on Wednesday if things go smoothly. Moon is to return to Seoul on Thursday.

North Korea's state-run media reported early Tuesday that Moon was to begin a visit, but said little else. It said the two will reaffirm their previous commitments to "peace, prosperity and the reunification of the Korean Peninsula."

Security was tight. Requests by The Associated Press to go to the airport or to drive around the city were denied.

This is Moon's first trip to the North Korean capital, though he has met Kim twice at the border village of Panmunjom.

He is under intense pressure from Washington to advance the denuclearization process. Before his departure he said he intends to push for "irreversible, permanent peace" and for better dialogue between Pyongyang and Washington.

"This summit would be very meaningful if it yielded a resumption of North Korea-U.S. talks," Moon said Tuesday morning just before his departure. "It's very important for South and North Korea to meet frequently, and we are turning to a phase where we can meet anytime we want."

But his chief of staff tried to lower expectations of major progress on the future of Kim's nuclear arsenal.

Kim, meanwhile, is seemingly riding a wave of success.

The North just completed an elaborate celebration replete with a military parade and huge rallies across the country to mark North Korea's 70th anniversary. China, signaling its support for Kim's recent diplomatic moves, sent its third-highest party official to those festivities. That's important because China is the North's biggest economic partner and is an important political counterbalance to the United States.

Needle-in-strawberry scare spreads across Australia

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Public fears about sewing needles concealed inside strawberries on supermarket shelves have spread across Australia and New Zealand as growers turn to metal detectors and the Australian government launches an investigation to restore public confidence in the popular fruit.

The government of Queensland state, where the contamination scare started last week, offered a 100,000 Australian dollar ($72,000) reward for information leading to the arrest of the person responsible for inserting needles into strawberries after six brands—Donnybrook Berries, Love Berry, Delightful Strawberries, Oasis, Berry Obsession and Berry Licious—were recalled.

The scare had spread across the nation by Monday, with needles reported found in strawberries in all six Australian states. No injuries have been reported.

Federal Health Minister Greg Hunt ordered the national food safety watchdog to investigate Queensland's handling of the needle scare.

He directed Food Standards Australia New Zealand to investigate whether there are supply chain weaknesses that need to be fixed.

"The job is very, very clear. Protect the public and keep them safe," Hunt told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

Both of New Zealand's major food distributors, Foodstuffs and Countdown, announced on Monday they are taking Australian strawberries off their shelves because of the scare.

New Zealand imports Australian strawberries when they are out of season locally from April to September, and both chains say the home-grown product will be on supermarket shelves soon.

Queensland Strawberry Growers Association vice president Adrian Schultz said what had started as a single act of "commercial terrorism" had brought a multimillion-dollar industry to its knees.

"I'm angry for all the associated people, it's the farmers, the people who supply them, the packaging people, the truckies with families to support, who suddenly lose their jobs ... it's far-reaching," Schultz said.

Major Australian supermarket chains Coles and Aldi have pulled all strawberries from their shelves across Australia except in Western Australia state as a precaution.

But Western Australia police announced Monday that the first suspected needle contamination case has been reported in locally grown fruit.

A man in the town of York reported to police that he found a needle in a sink after washing strawberries.

The report came after a 7-year-old girl in South Australia state found a needle in a Western Australia-grown strawberry on Saturday.

Western Australia Health Minister Roger Cook said the needle could have been inserted in the fruit after it arrived in South Australia.

World

Turkey, Russia agree on demilitarized zone in Syria's Idlib

MOSCOW (AP)—The leaders of Russia and Turkey agreed Monday to establish a demilitarized zone in Syria's Idlib region, the last major stronghold of anti-government rebels where fears had been running high of a devastating offensive by government forces.

The zone will be established by Oct. 15 and be 15-20 kilometers (9-12 miles) deep, with troops from Russia and NATO-member Turkey conducting coordinated patrols, President Vladimir Putin said at the end of a more than three-hour meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Sochi.

The deal marked a significant agreement between the two leaders and effectively delays an offensive by Syria and its Russian and Iranian allies, one that Turkey fears would create a humanitarian crisis near its border.

Putin said "radical militants" would have to withdraw from the zone. Among them would be those from the al-Qaida-linked Hayat Tahrir al-Sham—Arabic for Levant Liberation Committee. The group denies it is linked to al-Qaida.

It was not immediately clear exactly how the deal would be implemented in the province, which is home to more than 3 million Syrians and an estimated 60,000 rebel fighters from various groups.

"I believe that with this agreement we prevented a great humanitarian crisis in Idlib," Erdogan said at a joint briefing with Putin.

Turkey has been eager to prevent an assault by Syrian government troops in the province.

Putin said he believed the agreement on Idlib could hasten final resolution of Syria's long and devastating civil war.

"We agreed that practical implementation of the steps we plan will give a fresh impetus to the process of political settlement of the Syrian conflict and will make it possible to invigorate efforts in the Geneva format and will help restore peace in Syria," he said.

Asked whether Syrian President Bashar Assad's government agreed with the Putin-Erdogan plan, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu told reporters in Sochi that "in the coming hours, we will agree with them on all the positions put forth in this document."

AP

In this Tuesday Sept. 11, 2018 photo, Turkey-trained Syrian opposition fighters of the 'National Army' group formally known as Free Syrian Army, train in a camp in the Turkish-controlled northwestern city of Azaz, Syria.

WORLD BRIEFS

Medics recover 2 bodies after Israeli airstrike in Gaza

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Gaza's Health Ministry said early Tuesday that paramedics recovered two bodies after an overnight Israeli airstrike near the perimeter fence with Israel. The Israeli army said an aircraft targeted Palestinians who approached the fence and placed what the military said was a suspicious object. The Gaza-Israel frontier has been volatile for months. The militant Hamas group leads weekly marches against a blockade Israel and Egypt imposed on Gaza when Hamas took control in 2007. On Monday, thousands gathered on Gaza's Mediterranean beach, near the fence separating the territory from Israel. Some activists sailed in small fishing boats near the fence, flying the Palestinian flag. Israeli gunboats shot around the boats. Israel said some protesters on land burned tear gas and threw stones, and that troops fired tear gas and live rounds. Twenty-six protesters were wounded by Israeli army fire, Gaza health officials said. Israeli fire has killed at least 131 Palestinians during the protests which began in late March.

Egypt says it fights fake news, critics see new crackdown

CAIRO (AP)—Echoing some of President Donald Trump's rhetoric, authorities in Egypt are taking aim at an alleged barrage of "fake news" they say is meant to sow division and undermine the rule of general-turned-president Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi. Under a new law, the state's top media regulatory agency can now use the "fake news" label to shut down social media accounts with more than 5,000 followers, without having to obtain a court order. Another new law allows blocking websites with content deemed a threat to national security. Last month, the government set up a unit tracking alleged rumors, after el-Sissi claimed without elaborating that the government had identified some 21,000 rumors having been circulated over a three-month period this year. The Cabinet often issues statements refuting purported rumors. Government critics denounce the measures as the latest attempt to suppress dissent and silence what is left of independent journalism. Over the past few months, some 500 online sites have been blocked, as part of the state's growing control over the media, according to an Egyptian watchdog, the Association for Freedom of Thought and Expression.

Libya authorities close Tripoli's only airport over safety

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP)—Libyan authorities have closed the capital Tripoli's only functioning airport, diverting traffic to another one at the nearby militia-controlled city of Misrata. The Monday move came after the U.N.-backed Tripoli government handed control of the facility from one militia to another, prompting the Transport Ministry to order its closure on security concerns. Deputy Transport Minister Hisham Boushkiwat called the closing of Mitiga airport "unfortunate" but said that in the past "some things inside the airport have threatened traveler safety." He underlined ongoing nearby militia conflict in the capital as another reason behind the closure, but added that he hoped the airport would be reopened soon. The airport has been closed in the past, including last week when it was attacked by missiles of an unknown provenance.

UK leader warns rebels: it's my Brexit agreement or no deal

LONDON (AP)—British Prime Minister Theresa May has warned opponents of her blueprint for Brexit that rejecting it means crashing out of the European Union without a deal, an outcome the International Monetary Fund said Monday would have "very large" economic costs.

Attempting to assert control over a fractious party and faltering Brexit negotiations, May told the BBC that if rebel lawmakers shoot down a deal between her government and the EU, "the alternative to that will be having no deal."

With just over six months until Britain is due to leave the 28-nation EU on March 29, the two sides still have big gaps to bridge in divorce negotiations, and May's Conservative government remains divided over how close an economic relationship to seek with the bloc after Brexit.

May is proposing to keep Britain aligned to EU rules in return for free trade in goods and an open border between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland.

EU chiefs have responded by warning that the U.K. can't cherry pick aspects of membership in the bloc's single market without accepting the costs and responsibilities. May is hoping to win EU leaders around to her proposal at a meeting in Salzburg, Austria, on Wednesday and Thursday.

The two sides hope to strike a deal on divorce terms and the outlines of future trade by November, so that individual member states can approve it before Britain leaves in March.

That includes a vote in the British Parliament, where May's Conservatives don't have an overall majority and where her Brexit blueprint faces opposition from both pro- and anti-EU lawmakers.

May is calculating that, faced with a stark choice between an imperfect agreement and the unknown territory of "no deal," many lawmakers will grudgingly back her proposals.

"I think Parliament will vote for a deal because I think people will see the importance of a deal that maintains a good trading relationship with the EU but also maintains good cooperation in other areas, but gives us the freedom to take the benefits and opportunities of Brexit," she said in an interview broadcast Monday.

That outcome is far from certain. Although the prime minister insists the choice will be between her deal and no deal, pro-EU lawmakers want further negotiations, or even remaining in the bloc, to be options. Anti-Brexit campaigners are also pushing for a public referendum on the divorce agreement.

Meanwhile, a "hard Brexit" Conservative faction says leaving without a deal is preferable to May's proposed terms because it would leave Britain free to strike new trade deals around the world.

Ex-Brexit Secretary David Davis and Former Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson both quit May's Cabinet in July out of opposition to her plan. Johnson wrote in Monday's Daily Telegraph that May's Brexit negotiations were heading for a "spectacular political car crash" that would leave Britain in "the ditch with a total write-off of Brexit."

Many economists say leaving the EU without a deal would be economically devastating for Britain.

IMF chief Christine Lagarde said Monday that "all the likely Brexit scenarios will have costs for the U.K. economy," and a no-deal Brexit "would impose very large costs."

In an update on U.K. economic prospects, the IMF forecast growth of 1.5 percent in 2018 and 2019, down from 1.75 percent in 2016-17.

The IMF says that even a good deal would mean new barriers to trade. As part of the EU, Britain currently enjoys the freedom of goods, services, money and people to move across borders with 27 other countries in the region. Brexit will revoke some of those freedoms.

Britain has fallen behind other Group of Seven economies since the 2016 vote to leave the EU, with business uncertainty holding back investment and a fall in the value of the pound slowing growth in incomes and consumption, the IMF said.

Focus

As midterms near, Trump gambles on his hardline TRADE POLICY

AP

In this July 24, 2018, file photo a barn with a banner reading "Trump" is seen behind a field of soy beans in Ashland, Neb. The U.S. and China have imposed import taxes on $50 billion worth of each other's products. Ditching decades of U.S. trade policy that he says swindled America and robbed its workers, President Donald Trump insists he can save U.S. jobs and factories by abandoning or rewriting trade deals, slapping taxes on imports and waging a brutal tariff war with China, America's biggest trading partner.

By PAUL WISEMAN and KEN THOMAS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Farmers worry about falling crop prices and lost sales overseas. Manufacturers fear rising costs and new foreign taxes on their exports. American allies overseas are furious.

By any conventional gauge, President Donald Trump's uncompromising stance toward tariffs and the pain they've begun to cause U.S. individuals and companies so close to midterm elections would seem politically reckless. Yet Trump appears to be betting that his combative actions will soon benefit the country and prove a political winner.

Ditching decades of U.S. trade policy that he says swindled America and robbed its workers, Trump insists he can save U.S. jobs and factories by abandoning or rewriting trade deals, slapping taxes on imports and waging a brutal tariff war with China, America's biggest trading partner.

"Prior presidents in both political parties have never really moved to try to help and protect the American economy and its workforce, its farmers, its manufacturing workers, in a way of creating a level playing field," Larry Kudlow, the top White House economic adviser, told reporters last week. "They give it lip service, and then they back off. This president has no intention of backing off. None. Zero."

Trump's apparent belief is that he and congressional Republicans can rely on the unswerving support of core GOP voters—even in rural areas that have been economically hurt by his trade disputes—and maybe succeed in delivering better trade deals before Election Day. Still, as an insurance policy against failure, the administration is providing $12 billion in farm aid to soothe trade-war wounds in rural America.

All told, it's a high-risk political gamble.

"It's still unclear ultimately how the issue plays in November," said Nathan Gonzales, publisher of Inside Elections, a nonpartisan newsletter.

The U.S. and China have imposed import taxes on $50 billion worth of each other's products in a rumble over American allegations that Beijing uses predatory tactics to acquire foreign trade secrets and to try to overtake America's global supremacy in high technology. Over the weekend, news reports indicated that the administration is set to announce tariffs on $200 billion more in Chinese imports—a step that that would significantly escalate the trade war between the world's two largest economies. Beijing has said it would swiftly retaliate against additional U.S. tariffs.

Caught in the crossfire are U.S. soybean farmers, a prime target of Beijing's retaliatory tariffs, whose exports to China account for about 60 percent of their overseas sales. These tariffs make U.S. soybeans prohibitively expensive in China. That means lost sales for American farmers.

Separately Trump has enraged U.S. allies like Canada and the European Union by declaring their steel and aluminum a threat to America's national security as justification for slapping taxes on them.

On yet another trade front, the president would raise the stakes considerably if he carries out a threat to tax $340 billion in imported cars, trucks and auto parts—action that would raise prices for vehicles Americans buy.

What's more, Trump has threatened to kick Canada out of a North American trade bloc if it doesn't cave in to pressure to open its dairy market, among other things.

Trump is running into resistance in pockets across the country. American farmers who rely on exports are facing retaliation from U.S. trading partners, which depresses export sales and prices of agricultural commodities. Manufacturers that buy steel and aluminum are being hurt by higher prices and supply shortages resulting from the tariffs on imported metals.

Corporations fear that Trump's drive to rewrite the North American Free Trade Agreement will disrupt the supply chains that they've spent the past 24 years building across the United States, Canada and Mexico. If the trade war with China further escalates, consumers would face higher prices at the mall and online.

On the basis of public opinion surveys, at least, the president's approach poses political risks. A poll released Aug. 24 by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that 61 percent of Americans disapproved of the president's handling of trade negotiations.

"The Trump administration has handed Democrats in the midterms at least a talking point, not just with farmers but with consumers," said Mickey Kantor, the top American trade negotiator under President Bill Clinton and now a partner at the Mayer Brown law firm.

Missouri's embattled Democratic senator, Claire McCaskill, is trying to link her Republican challenger, Trump ally Josh Hawley, to a nail manufacturing plant that says it might have to close because the Trump steel tariffs have driven up its costs.

Likewise in North Dakota, Democratic Sen. Heidi Heitkamp is running ads tying her Republican challenger, Rep. Kevin Cramer, to Trump's "reckless trade war."

Besides unveiling $12 billion in aid to farmers hurt by the conflicts, Trump is seeking to reach trade deals to show that his brass-knuckles approach will succeed in the end. He has said he expects to sign a deal with South Korea later this month during the United Nations General Assembly. Earlier this month, he announced an agreement with Mexico to replace NAFTA—a move intended to pressure Canada to embrace a new North American accord on terms favorable to the United States.

Plans are underway for a delegation from China to resume trade discussions with the Trump team as early as this week. In addition, Trump says his team has started trade discussions with Japan and has received interest from India.

For the president, the bet is that America's trading partners will capitulate promptly to his demands, rather than delay negotiations in the hope that Democrats will take control of the House and possibly the Senate and leave the president in a weaker bargaining position.

"There is some pressure to get results," said Philip Levy, senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and a White House economist under President George W. Bush. "They need to do something where they can say, 'Hey, this different approach actually works.' "

Trump is also relying on the loyalty of his supporters in rural America. He has called farmers "patriots" who are willing to absorb economic pain in the short run to buy time for him to negotiate trade deals more advantageous to the United States.

Approval for Trump's performance is still running at 53 percent in rural areas, compared with 39 percent overall, according to an NPR/Marist poll released last week. Even if they're worried about the trade disputes, many rural Americans support Trump's stands on social issues such as immigration—a sign that the president may have enough political leeway to drive forward with his hard line on trade.

"Trump," said chief global strategist Greg Valliere of Horizon Investments, "has a lot of Teflon in the farm belt."

Good Housekeeping

Mountain Mints are champions for landscape, herb garden or backyard habitat

TNS
Eastern Tiger Swallowtails find the mountain mints to be a valuable source of nectar.

By Norman Winter
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

A couple of weeks ago I was walking a trail and had one of those OMG moments as I spotted a plant 20 feet away and could tell it was a champion of pollinators. At the risk of being a plant geek, I will tell you it was amazing to watch the bees, swallowtails, and hairstreaks all on a frenzy to get to the flowers. When this happens you simply have to take notice as this is not an everyday occurrence in the garden.

The plant was a native called the hoary mountain mint. Botanically speaking it is known as Pycnanthemum incanum, pronounced pick-NAN-the-mum in-Kan-um. Your first thought may be that I am going to write about a 'mint' but I assure you these are champions. There are roughly 20 species found in the United States and Canada and the Herb Society of America named it Notable Native in 2016.

While others tout their aromas, oils, medicinal, or cooking uses I am simply talking about one of the best pollinator plants on the planet. Those with silver/whitish foliage like the Hoary Mountain Mint and the silver green Clustered Mountain Mint are also striking in the garden when grown either with other silver-leafed plants or against a backdrop of typical dark green leaves.

In Georgia, the Clustered Mountain Mints bloom from the end of May until frost while the Hoary Mountain Mint starts a little later. Further north they may not start blooming until June and July. While it might not capture your attention with its incredible color it will simply mesmerize you with the sheer number of pollinators it attracts. You simply can't walk away from the plant as you want to watch all that is happening and see what flying creature might come in next.

You may find yourself asking, OK, what about the flowers. The Clustered Mountain Mint is actually showy in the garden looking green then forming silver colored bracts with disks that open to reveal small pink blossoms. The bracts are very striking and open the door for some wonderful plant combinations.

The Hoary Mount Mint Flowers has small white two-lipped flowers that may also exhibit lavender hues and purple spotting. They, too, are borne in terminal clusters. In the end, though you really find yourself wondering how those tiny pink flowers could be so delectable to the insect world.

The Mountain Mints seem to have found their niche in the plant mail order marketing program versus the typical garden center. No doubt there are those glorious garden centers that can testify that they sell them, and believe me we all stand and applaud.

The consensus is the name Mountain Mint is a little misleading, and that you'll find them in open woods, thickets, and fields from the Gulf States to Maine. The best place to plant them in the landscape, to me, is in dry to medium, moist, but well-drained soil and grown at the woodland edge.

I have seen them performing in full sun but it seems a little afternoon shade is appreciated. You may be thrilled to know deer avoid these plants. In addition to the two I have been touting the North American Butterfly Association is also high on Narrow-leaf Mountain Mint, Pycnathemum tenuifolium, and the Virginia Mountain Mint, P. virginianum, that is endangered or threatened in some states.

The silvery sheen from the bracts opens the door for a lot of landscape companions. I can only dream about the result if they were grown with spotted bee-balm Monarda punctata, Joe Pye Weed, Eutrochium purpureum, Hummingbird Mints (Agastache species and hybrids) like Blue Fortune, and Common Boneset, Eupatorium perfoliatum. It would be a backyard pollinator heaven

Message of Appreciation
†Raymond Franklin
Masga Nakazato
We, the family of the Late †Raymond Franklin Masga Nakazato also known as "Bo", wish to extend our deepest sincere and heartfelt "Thank you" to all our families, relatives, and friends. Your thoughtfulness and unselfish support in expressing your sympathy and condolences have helped us endure the grief and sorrow of our loss. Your presence at the daily mass and rosary has given us strength to carry on each day. We are very grateful for all of you, most especially, Father Isaac Ayuyu, Techa' Helen C. Sablan, St. Jude Choir, Mayor's Office Staff, CUC, Senators and Congressmen, Josephine & Raymond U. Palacios, Borja Funeral Home, and all his friends who became family. Your kindness and love will be cherished and remembered.
May God Bless You All.
Si Yu'us Ma'ase
Takehide & Leona M. Nakazato,
Children & Family

Life & Style

'Game of Thrones,' 'Mrs. Maisel' triumph at Emmys

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Amazon's "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" became the first streaming series to win top Emmy comedy honors and HBO's "Game of Thrones" recaptured the best drama series award Monday at a ceremony that largely slighted its most ethnically diverse field of nominees ever.

"The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," Amazon's freshman sitcom about an unhappy 1950s homemaker liberated by stand-up comedy, earned best actress honors for star Rachel Brosnahan.

Her castmate Alex Borstein earned the supporting actress trophy and the series creator, Amy Sherman-Palladino, nabbed writing and directing awards.

Claire Foy of "The Crown" and Matthew Rhys of "The Americans" won top drama acting Emmys, their first trophies for the roles and last chance to claim them, with Foy's role as Queen Elizabeth II going to another actress and Rhys' show wrapped.

The field bested by Foy included last year's winner Elisabeth Moss for "The Handmaid's Tale" and Sandra Oh of "Killing Eve," who would have been the first actor of Asian descent to get a top drama award.

"This wasn't supposed to happen," said a startled Foy.

"Game of Thrones," which sat out last year's Emmys because of scheduling, won despite competition from defending champ "The Handmaid's Tale."

"Thank you for letting us take care of your people," "Game of Thrones" producer D.B. Weiss said to George R.R. Martin, whose novels fuel the drama.

In a ceremony that started out congratulating TV academy voters for the most ethnically diverse field of nominees ever, the early awards all went to whites.

"Let's get it trending: #EmmysSoWhite," presenter James Corden joked at the midway point, riffing off an earlier tribute to Betty White.

"I want to say six awards, all white winners, and nobody has thanked Jesus yet," co-host Michael Che said, referring back to his earlier joke that only African-American and Republican winners do.

Then Regina King broke the string, with a best actress trophy in a limited series or movie for "Seven Seconds," which tracks the fallout from a white police officer's traffic accident involving a black teenager.

She was followed by Darren Criss, who won the lead acting award for the miniseries "The Assassination of Gianni Versace" and who is of Filipino descent.

Thandie Newton won best supporting drama actress for "Westworld," and Peter Dinklage added a third trophy to his collection for "Game of Thrones."

Brosnahan used her acceptance speech to give a shoutout to her comedy's celebration of women power.

"It's about a woman who's finding her voice anew, and it's one of the things that's happening all over the country now," she said. She urged the audience to exercise that power by voting.

Bill Hader collected the best comedy actor award for "Barry," a dark comedy about a hired killer who stumbles into a possible acting career.

AP

David Benioff and the cast and crew of "Game of Thrones" accept the award for outstanding drama series at the 70th Primetime Emmy Awards on Monday, Sept. 17, 2018, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Henry Winkler, aka "The Fonz," won a supporting actor award—his first Emmy—for "Barry," four decades after gaining fame for his role in "Happy Days."

"If you stay at the table long enough, the chips come to you. Tonight, I got to clear the table," an ebullient Winkler said, with an equally delighted auditorium audience rising to give him a standing ovation. To his grown children, he said: "You can go to bed now, daddy won!"

The biggest award so far won by a broadcast network was "Saturday Night Live" for best variety sketch series.

The Emmys had a real-life dramatic moment when winning director Glenn Weiss, noting his mother had died two weeks ago, proposed to his girlfriend, Jan Svendsen.

"You wonder why I don't want to call you my girlfriend? It's because I want to call you my wife," Weiss said. She said yes, he put his mother's ring on her finger and the crowd whooped and cheered.

John Oliver, in picking up the trophy for best variety talk show award for "Last Week Tonight," thanked Weiss' girlfriend for giving the right answer or, he joked, the whole ceremony could have gone south.

The Emmys kicked off with a song, "We Solved It," a celebration to the diversity of nominees sung by stars including Kate McKinnon and Kenan Thompson. The tune included a mention that Oh could become the first woman of Asian descent to win an Emmy. "There were none, now there's one, so we're done," the comedians sang.

Oh played along from her seat: "Thank you, but it's an honor just to be Asian," said the Korean-Canadian actress.

"Saturday Night Live" creator Lorne Michaels, producing his second Emmy telecast in 30 years, was tasked with turning viewership around after the 2017 show's audience of 11.4 million narrowly avoided the embarrassment of setting a new low.

The ceremony clearly bore his stamp, with Che and Jost as hosts and familiar "SNL" faces, including Kate McKinnon and Alec Baldwin, as presenters and nominees. The long-running NBC sketch show, already the top Emmy winner ever with 71, won again for best variety sketch series.

The pressure's on Michaels because NBC and other broadcasters are increasingly reliant on awards and other live events to draw viewers distracted by streaming and more 21st- century options. The networks, which air the Emmy telecast on a rotating basis, are so eager for the ad dollars it generates and its promotional value for fall shows that they endure online competitors sharing the stage.

WINNERS' LIST

LOS ANGELES (AP)–List of winners at the annual Primetime Emmy Awards, announced Monday by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

Drama Series: "Game of Thrones"

Comedy Series: "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

Actor, Drama Series: Matthew Rhys, "The Americans"

Actress, Drama Series: Claire Foy, "The Crown"

Supporting Actor, Drama Series: Peter Dinklage, "Game of Thrones"

Supporting Actress, Drama Series: Thandie Newton, "Westworld"

Writing, Drama Series: Joel Fields and Joe Weisberg, "The Americans"

Directing, Drama Series: Stephen Daldry, "The Crown"

Actor, Comedy Series: Bill Hader, "Barry"

Actress, Comedy Series: Rachel Brosnahan, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

Supporting Actor, Comedy Series: Henry Winkler, "Barry."

Supporting Actress, Comedy Series: Alex Borstein, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

Writing, Comedy Series: Amy Sherman-Palladino, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

Directing Comedy Series: Amy Sherman-Palladino, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

Limited Series: "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story"

Actor, Limited Series or Movie: Darren Criss, "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story"

Actress, Limited Series or Movie: Regina King, "Seven Seconds"

Supporting Actor, Limited Series or Movie: Jeff Daniels, "Godless"

Supporting Actress, Limited Series or Movie: Merritt Wever, "Godless"

Writing, Limited Series: William Bridges and Charlie Brooker, "USS Callister (Black Mirror)"

Directing, Limited Series: Ryan Murphy, "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story"

Writing, Variety Special: John Mulaney, "John Mulaney: Kid Gorgeous at Radio City"

Directing, Variety Special: Glenn Weiss, "The Oscars"

Variety Sketch Series: "Saturday Night Live"

Variety Talk Series: "Last Week Tonight With John Oliver"

Reality-Competition Program: "RuPaul's Drag Race"

Oscars director wins Emmy, pops question to girlfriend

LOS ANGELES (AP)—As a director of awards shows, Glenn Weiss specializes in making big moments on the stage. He'll have a hard time topping this one.

In what could become the most talked-about moment of Monday night's Emmy Awards, Weiss used his acceptance speech for directing the Oscars telecast to propose to his girlfriend, stunning the celebrity-filled audience.

He was giving the sort of speech from a non-celebrity that makes most viewers tune out when he said that his mother died two weeks ago, and she was fond of his girlfriend, Jan Svendsen.

"You wonder why I don't want to call you my girlfriend?" he said to Svendsen. "It's because I want to call you my wife."

Audience members jumped to their feet with cheers. "Saturday Night Live" actress Leslie Jones was caught on camera with her mouth agape and eyes wide in surprise.

Svendsen was sitting shocked in her seat as Weiss tried to quiet the crowd so he could finish. He politely told his counterpart directing the Emmys telecast that he was going to need "a moment."

Svendsen got up on stage for the formal, knee-bent proposal as Weiss presented her with the same ring that his father gave his mother 67 years ago and asked her to marry him.

She nodded without a word and sealed it with a kiss.

Backstage, Weiss told reporters that even with his experience, he couldn't plan a surprise like that.

"It became a thought and the thought picked up steam as we got here," Weiss said. "The timing just lined up very nicely and it was a really magical moment."

When asked what he would have done if he didn't win, Weiss answered: "Wait until next year? I suppose the ball or In-N-Out Burger, which is our staple after award shows."

The couple who met in 2001 working together at the Tony Awards has been together for about a decade. They're quite used to attending award shows together, so Svendsen said it felt like a normal day for the most part.

"I had no idea," she said. "I'm still processing this."

Then she joked: "Thank you for not playing us off."

Weiss said he only told his father about his plan to propose, since he needed to get the ring from him.

"To me it's more valuable than the Hope diamond. It's immensely precious to me," he said. "Walking around on the red carpet like nothing was happening with this thing sitting in my pocket was kind of a nerve-wracking experience, to be honest with you. It was such a valuable thing sitting right here and now it's where it belongs."

Carrie Underwood reveals she had 3 miscarriages in 2 years

NEW YORK (AP)—Carrie Underwood says she turned to God after experiencing three miscarriages in two years.

The 35-year-old country singer and former "American Idol" champion told "CBS Sunday Morning " she got pregnant in early 2017 and it "didn't work out." She had a second miscarriage later that year and a third in 2018.

Underwood says she was afraid to be angry because she has an incredible husband, hockey player Mike Fisher, and an incredible son, 3-year-old Isaiah.

She says she got mad when she thought she might be suffering a fourth miscarriage and she "told God how I felt." She went to the doctor and was told everything was fine. Underwood says God heard her.

The pregnant singer said she'll go on tour this spring, hopefully with her new baby. She says "things are looking better."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Rich sales for 'Crazy Rich Asians' books

NEW YORK (AP)—"Crazy Rich Asians" isn't just a hit at the box office. Kevin Kwan's novel and its two follow-ups have sold 1.5 million copies this year, Knopf Doubleday announced Monday. "Crazy Rich Asians," along with "China Rich Girlfriend" and "Rich People Problems," have occupied the top three slots on The New York Times' paperback fiction best-seller list. Kwan's trilogy is a rare bright spot for fiction in a year dominated by Trump-related nonfiction such as Bob Woodward's "Fear." The film version of "Crazy Rich Asians," starring Constance Wu and Henry Golding, has made more than $140 million in the United States alone. It's the first major film production in years to feature an Asian-led cast. A box set of the three books comes out Oct. 23.

Sean Penn: Much of #MeToo movement divides men and women

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sean Penn says much of the spirit of the #MeToo movement is to "divide men and women." Penn appeared Monday in an interview with the co-star of the new Hulu show "The First" on NBC's "Today " show. Natascha McElhone said her character is informed by the movement. Penn disagreed. The two-time Oscar winner says he's "very suspicious of a movement that gets glommed onto in great stridency and rage and without nuance." Penn says he thinks "it's too black and white." He says it's "really good to just slow down." "The First" centers on a mission to Mars. The president of the United States and three of the five astronauts are women.

Trump-tape-hunting Tom Arnold, 'Apprentice' producer scuffle

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Comedian Tom Arnold filed a police report Monday over an incident involving the producer of the "The Apprentice" at a weekend pre-Emmy Awards party, police said. Detectives will investigate Arnold's allegations that Mark Burnett choked him at the party Sunday night, said Los Angeles police officer Jeff Lee. Burnett's wife, actress Roma Downey, tweeted that Arnold "tried to ambush" the couple, and she posted a photo of what she says is her bruised hand. Arnold's lawyer, Marty Singer, told The Hollywood Reporter that Burnett "attacked" Arnold. Actress Alyson Hannigan tweeted that she witnessed the confrontation and thought it was a joke until security jumped in. Emails to the celebrities' representatives were not immediately returned. Arnold's new show, "The Hunt for the Trump Tapes," is set to debut Tuesday. The show follows Arnold's attempts to find tapes that show Donald Trump expressing bigoted views on the set of "The Apprentice," which Burnett produces.

Henry Winkler wins Emmy 42 years after first nomination

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Henry Winkler won the first Emmy of his career on Monday, more than four decades after he was first nominated for his role as The Fonz in "Happy Days."

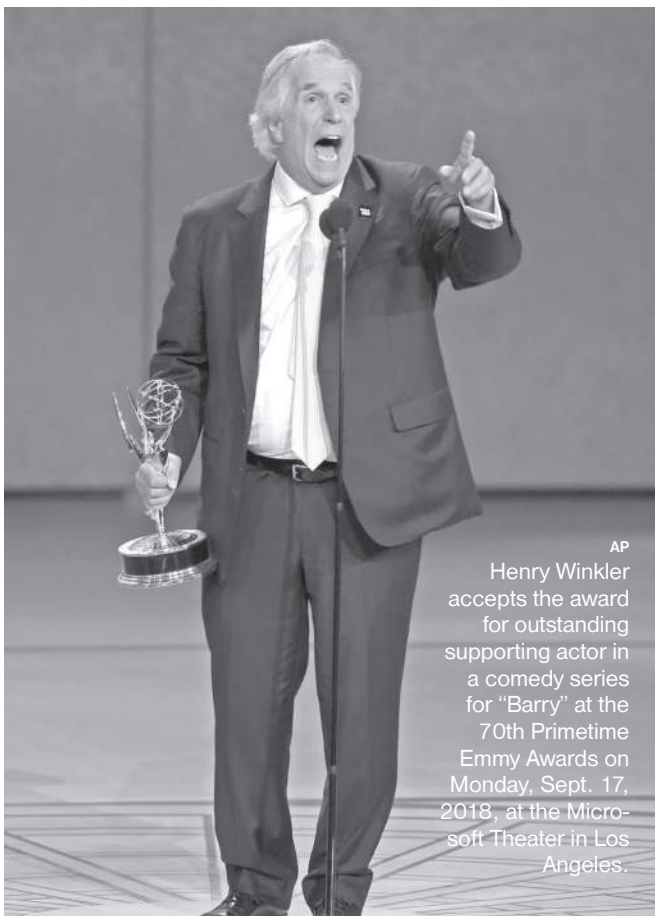
The 72-year-old Winkler looked bowled over when he won for best supporting actor in a comedy series on Monday for his role as Gene Cousineau on HBO's dark comedy "Barry."

Once he took the stage amid roaring applause and a standing ovation, Winkler joked that he wrote his speech 43 years ago.

Then Winkler quoted some advice he got in Hollywood, saying that "if you stay at the table long enough, the chips come to you."

"Tonight I got to clear the table," he said.

Winkler was nominated three times for his work on "Happy Days," in 1976, 1977 and 1978. His character Arthur "The Fonz" Fonzarelli spawned a cultural craze and made him one of the biggest stars on TV.



AP
Henry Winkler accepts the award for outstanding supporting actor in a comedy series for "Barry" at the 70th Primetime Emmy Awards on Monday, Sept. 17, 2018, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Winkler also was nominated for an Emmy in 1979 for an informational program and most recently in 2000 as a guest actor in "The Practice."

Backstage after his win, Winkler joked with reporters that he was wearing rubber pants with a little powder, just in case he wet himself if he won. "But I had control," he joked.

He expressed wonder at the win and the path his life and career have taken, saying he dreamed of being an actor when he was 7- years-old living in New York City "with short German Jewish parents who did not want me to be an actor."

"I was 27 when I started doing The Fonz. I'm now 72 and I'm standing right here in front of you with her," Winkler said, referring to his Emmy statuette. "Wow."

School shootings inspire new Bacharach song

NEW YORK (AP)—At age 90, Burt Bacharach hasn't lost faith in the power of music.

"Music softens the heart, makes you feel something if it's good, brings in emotion that you might not have felt before," he told The Associated Press during a recent telephone interview. "It's a very powerful thing if you're able to do to it, if you have it in your heart to do something like that."

The celebrated songwriter has collaborated with fellow Grammy winner Rudy Perez on "Live to See Another Day," a somber ballad inspired by the Parkland massacre and other school shootings. Released Monday, the song was recorded with the Miami Symphony Orchestra and features the vocals of two Florida teens, Haven Star and Angie Green. Proceeds will be donated to the Sandy Hook Promise Foundation, an anti-gun violence organization based in Newtown, Connecticut, where a gunman killed 20 schoolchildren in 2012.

Bacharach says the new song, which includes such lyrics as "We can't live like this forever/ Got to have a change of heart," was about love and "keeping our kids safe."

"It's just crazy," he said of the school shootings. "I think the best you can do (as a songwriter) as far as putting out a message, is ... move people."

Perez said in a statement that "Live to See Another Day" is "our cry to stop the violence aimed at our children in schools."

Mom wants to shield her kids from relative's new lifestyle

DEAR ABBY: A close relative has started working in the adult industry. She now dresses provocatively, showing lots of skin. She has also covered much of her body with tattoos and adopted the lifestyle of someone in that field. Our family assumes she's "going through a phase" and has no idea what she's really up to.

I have two small children I don't really want around her, but I'm not sure how to handle the situation. I don't want to tell her mom what she's really doing, but at the same time, I don't want my kids thinking that's how people in society are. Please help.

NERVOUS IN NEW YORK

DEAR NERVOUS: If you no longer want to be around this person, no law says you have to be. If your relatives ask you about your absence, tell them the reason. If they don't, don't tattle. This isn't an emergency; rest assured her parents will find out eventually.

As to her being a bad influence on your children, take this as an opportunity for a teachable moment about people coming in "different packaging" and not judging a book by its cover.

DEAR ABBY: I'm confused and not sure what to do. I'm a 32-year-old single mom who is a hopeless romantic. I've been seeing someone for six months. He is already talking about marriage and a happily ever after, which I am ready for.

The downside is, not long after we started dating, I met someone who makes me question everything. He's someone I can't actually be with because—yes, he's married. I'm disgusted with myself for allowing this to happen, but the minute our eyes met, my heart skipped a beat.

What I'm asking is, do I settle for the guy I've been dating because that's what I'm ready for? He's a great guy who cares a lot about my daughter and me. I can be a faithful and loving wife, which he wants. Or should I let him go because my heart truly isn't there? Please help me, even though I don't deserve it.

SETTLING DOUBTS

DEAR SETTLING: Warning: Heartbreak ahead. Although you say you are ready for marriage and happily ever after, I don't think it's true. I can't warn you strongly enough not to marry one man while in your heart you yearn for someone else. It's a recipe for disaster, and the collateral damage will be not only Mr. Six Months but also your child.

DEAR ABBY: I received a drunken text from my son's friend telling me my son is gay. It rambled on about their relationship. I decided not to question my son about it because, if it is true, it won't change our relationship. It really doesn't matter to me. They live in another state.

This is a dilemma because I worry about this "friend" not being trustworthy. Is this my business? Should I tell my son?

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What if he gets upset?

TAKEN ABACK

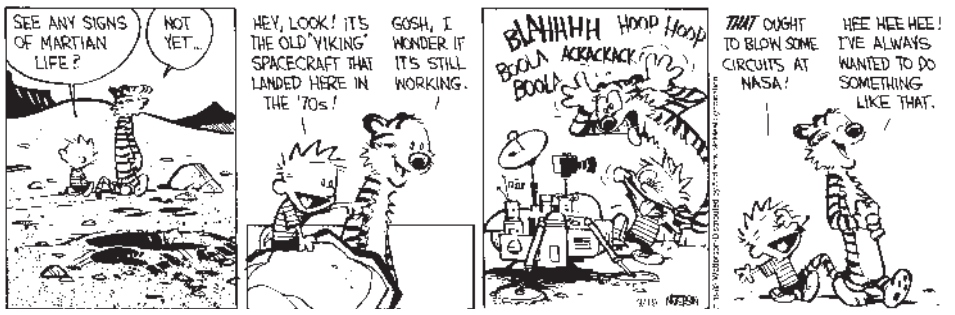
DEAR TAKEN: You should absolutely have a talk with your son about the text you received. Ask him if what the friend said is true, and if it is, why you didn't hear it from him. Don't be angry or accusatory. Just be sure to assure him how much you love him and that your feelings for him have not changed. He may need to hear you verbalize it.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

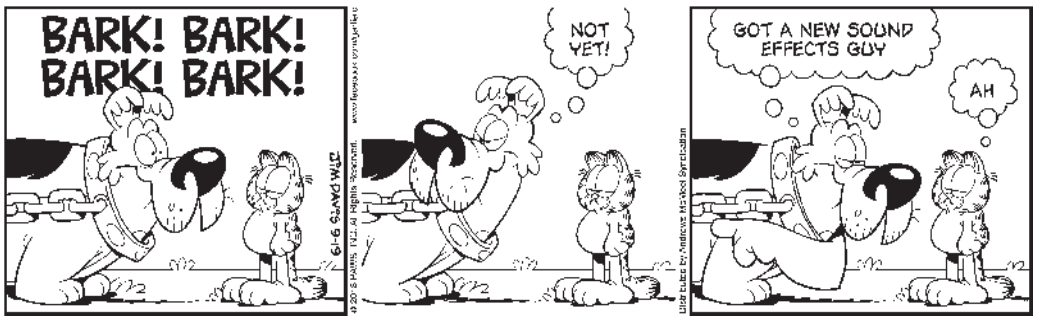
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


SEE ANY SIGNS OF MARTIAN LIFE?
NOT YET...
HEY, LOOK! IT'S THE OLD "VIKING" SPACECRAFT THAT LANDED HERE IN THE '70s!
GOSH, I WONDER IF IT'S STILL WORKING.
BLAHHHH
HOOP Hoop
BOOLA ACKACKACK BOOLA
THAT OUGHT TO BLOW SOME CIRCUITS AT NASA!
HEE HEE HEE! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

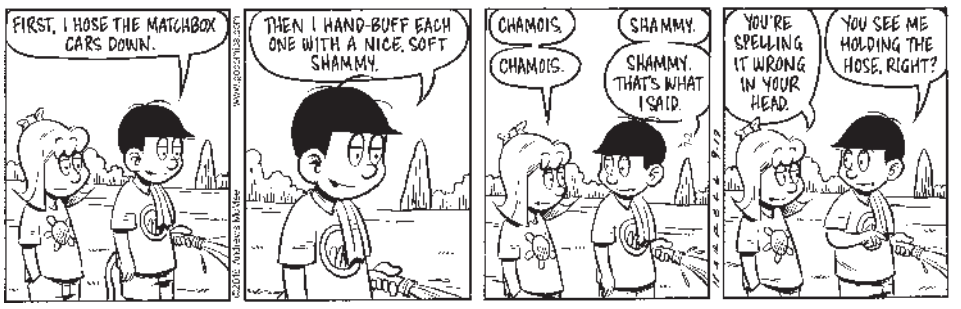
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



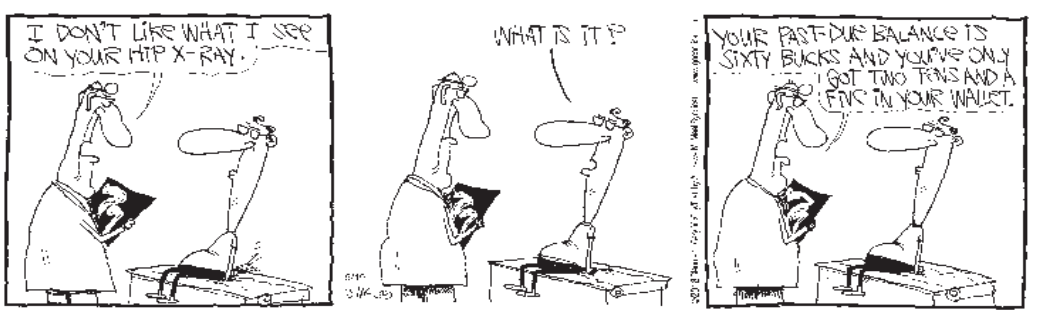
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


FIRST, I HOSE THE MATCHBOX CARS DOWN.
THEN I HAND-BUFF EACH ONE WITH A NICE, SOFT SHAMMY.
CHAMOIS.
SHAMMY.
CHAMOIS.
SHAMMY. THAT'S WHAT I SAID.
YOU'RE SPELLING IT WRONG IN YOUR HEAD.
YOU SEE ME HOLDING THE HOSE, RIGHT?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


I DON'T LIKE WHAT I SEE ON YOUR HIP X-RAY.
WHAT IS IT?
YOUR PAST-DUE BALANCE IS SIXTY BUCKS AND YOU'VE ONLY GOT TWO TENS AND A FIVE IN YOUR WALLET.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Knee protector
4 Grit
8 "Arrivederci —"
12 Sugary suffix
13 Buffalo's county
14 Divisible by two
15 JFK info
16 Sodium chloride
18 Gold-loving king
20 Patient's need, briefly
21 Mimic
24 Does some housework
28 Suitable for a low-sodium diet
32 Count counterpart
33 Dead heat
34 Young horses
36 2016 Olympics city
37 Rhyming tributes
39 Leisure
41 Shrivel with heat
43 Cicatrix
44 Free (of)
46 Beer type
50 Schedule
55 Actress Thurman
56 India's continent
57 Active person
58 Invoice fig.
59 Sir's partner
60 Graph line
61 Actress West

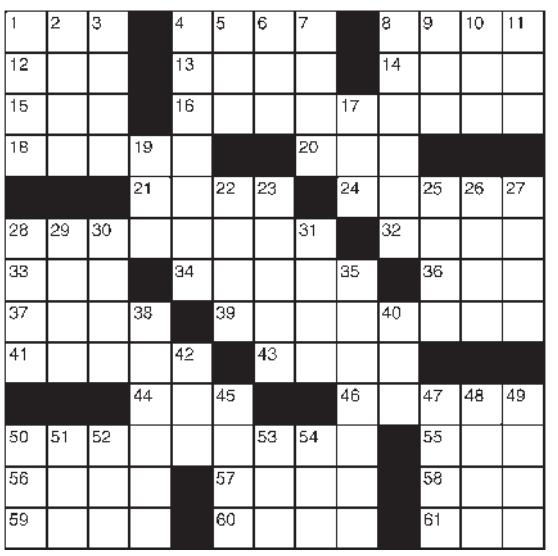
DOWN

1 Words-worth work
2 Wine region
3 Lifeless
4 Ignites
5 Altar constellation
6 Pen tip
7 Shoulder muscle, for short
8 Save
9 Eggs
10 Actor Gibson
11 Busy insect
17 Days of yore
19 Play segment
22 Campus VIP
23 Decade parts
25 Rani's wrap
26 Svelte
27 — gin fizz
28 Desist
29 Opera set in Egypt
30 Lusty look
31 Power co. supply
35 Paint base coats
38 Piercing yell
40 — -la-la
42 Smack
45 Arp's art
47 Site of Apra Harbor
48 Madame Bovary
49 Assess
50 Highland hat
51 "Life — cabaret ..."
52 Actress Farrow
53 Present location?
54 Island garland

Solution time: 23 mins.

C	A	L	L	■	L	A	P	D	■	L	E	D
A	G	F	F	■	O	D	I	F	■	O	R	O
P	F	N	T	F	C	O	S	T	■	O	I	I
■	■	■	I	M	O	S	■	F	A	S	F	I
T	O	G	A	S	■	■	A	N	T	F	■	■
O	V	A	L	■	C	O	S	T	E	L	L	O
F	E	Z	■	S	E	N	S	E	■	E	A	R
U	N	■	T	C	O	S	T	■	B	A	L	E
■	■	L	E	A	S	■	■	S	C	H	A	S
M	O	L	A	H	■	A	H	E	A	■	■	■
A	M	■	■	C	O	S	T	A	R	■	C	A
G	E	O	■	E	L	■	E	■	D	O	R	M
I	N	N	■	R	E	F	S	■	S	N	I	P

Yesterday's answer 9-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kevin Zegers, 34; Alison Sweeney, 42; Jimmy Fallon, 44; Trisha Yearwood, 54.

Happy Birthday: Make plans and follow through. A change of location or learning something new will help you make a decision that will improve your life. Taking on new responsibilities will help to stabilize your life and your mindset. A lifestyle change will give you the push you need to break old habits and embark on a new and healthier routine. Your numbers are 2, 7, 18, 21, 24, 36, 47.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Do your part and get things done. Don't give anyone room to criticize you for not pulling your weight. Be responsible and you'll feel good about what you've accomplished. Help those counting on you without complaining. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Listen to advice offered, but when it's time to decide, rely on what makes the most sense to you. A change in the way you feel about someone or something will dictate how you move forward. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Stick to the rules, no matter what others do. Taking a risk won't pay off. Use your energy wisely and you will discover that planning can be the most important part of whatever venture you choose to pursue. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Take a look at your choices and head in the direction that draws you most. Sometimes it's good to break routine and to try something you've never done. Exploring unfamiliar territory will lead to personal growth. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't worry about what others are doing. Do your part and take your responsibilities seriously. Avoid making personal changes that aren't necessary. Take care of your health. Doing what's best for you will be satisfying and rewarding. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Check out your options before you make a move. Refuse to let anyone put you in a precarious position that can have a detrimental effect on you physically. Set your pace and stick to what works best for you. Handle romance sensibly. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* If someone applies force, walk away. Take the time you need to consider your next move. It's better to be cautious than to appease someone by doing something that isn't right for you. Focus on personal growth, not joint efforts. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Check out the latest trends and set your own style. Live life to suit what you want, not what someone else wants for you. Change is only good if it results in positive improvement. Romance should be a priority. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Don't take a risk. You'll feel far better using your energy to get into tip-top shape or to make a conscious effort to save money, not spend it. Don't let anyone talk you into buying something you don't need. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Look at the possibilities and make the most of an opportunity. You have what it takes to get ahead if you are persistent. A personal change will bring you closer to someone who will bring out the best in you. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't get emotional or let your guard down. Keep your thoughts and plans to yourself until you have worked out all the details. If you let others get involved in your business, it will end up costing you more than anticipated. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* You don't have to prove yourself to others. Follow your heart and do what pleases you. A positive change will improve your status, reputation and the way you live life moving forward. An unexpected gift is heading your way. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are insightful, caring and helpful. You are opportunistic and steadfast.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	5	2	3	9	4			
	9		1			4		
6				8			3	
5				7			8	
2	7	6	8	4			9	
	1	9	2				5	
							6	
							4	
				5	3	1	2	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

3	4	8	1	9	7	2	5	6
1	7	2	6	3	5	4	9	8
9	5	6	4	2	8	7	3	1
7	8	3	9	5	2	6	1	4
4	6	9	7	1	3	8	2	5
2	1	5	8	6	4	9	7	3
8	3	4	2	7	1	5	6	9
6	2	1	5	8	9	3	4	7
5	9	7	3	4	6	1	8	2

Difficulty Level ★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

FINGERPRINT ANALYSIS Solution: 7 letters

I	H	L	S	S	E	Y	D	P	T	H	G	I	L	M
M	A	O	P	C	O	M	P	A	R	E	C	A	A	A
P	N	O	I	I	E	P	A	T	D	I	T	G	B	G
R	D	P	N	E	F	I	L	E	S	E	N	D	O	N
E	E	R	R	N	R	M	T	N	N	I	E	P	R	E
S	V	O	E	C	A	E	E	T	F	E	C	H	A	T
S	I	C	T	E	C	R	D	I	P	A	N	O	T	I
I	C	E	T	T	O	I	E	W	R	R	E	T	O	C
O	E	S	A	F	T	D	T	D	O	T	D	O	R	H
N	S	S	P	B	G	H	H	S	A	P	I	G	Y	E
I	O	Ⓓ	A	L	L	C	U	U	A	S	V	R	F	M
A	I	Ⓤ	A	E	R	O	L	M	W	L	E	A	I	I
T	L	Ⓢ	A	A	R	A	O	E	B	P	P	P	R	C
S	S	Ⓣ	E	O	V	C	A	D	A	L	Y	H	E	A
S	U	S	P	E	C	T	I	P	S	S	T	Y	V	L

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Blood, Card, Chemical, Compare, Crease, Deep, Detect, Devices, Dust, Dyes, Evaluate, Evidence, File, Forensic, Hand, Impression, Laboratory, Latent, Light, Loop, Magnetic, Magnified Glass, Oils, Paper, Patent, Pattern, Photography, Plastic, Porous, Powder, Process, Science, Search, Stain, Steam, Suspect, Sweat, Tape, Thumb, Tips, Type, Verify

Yesterday's Answer: Documents

Treasuries 13 through 29 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-07

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

2018–2019 VEHICLE (4 Door Sedan)

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for a 4 door sedan for the Judicial Administrative Office.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Ilimwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-08

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE (Pick-up Truck) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office"

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for a pick-up truck for the Judicial Administrative Office.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Ilimwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-09

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE (Utility Vehicle) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office"

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for a utility vehicle for the Judicial Administrative Office.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Ilimwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-OGM-147

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 02, 2018 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) PICK-UP TRUCKS, 4WD, 4-FULL DOORS FOR THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.
ADMINISTRATOR OF OGM

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP18-CHCC/BUSINESS OFFICE-011

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 04, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM

"PATIENT REGISTRATION FURNISHING, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

MANDATORY PRE-SUBMISSION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT

A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2018 AT 9:00AM. ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND TO VIEW THE SPACE AND MAY TAKE MEASUREMENTS AND ASK ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS.

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

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POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF)
ANTONIO GUILIMON ADRIANO,) CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0009
DECEASED.)

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT DIEGO M. MASGA HAS FILED AN AMENDED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION UPON THE ESTATE OF ANTONIO GUILIMON ADRIANO, DECEASED; AND THAT THE SAID AMENDED PETITION WILL BE HEARD BY THE COURT ON OCTOBER 25, 2018, AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN TO ALL HEIRS OF AND PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ANTONIO GUILIMON ADRIANO, DECEASED, AND TO ALL PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN SAID ESTATE, THAT THEY SHALL FILE SUCH CLAIMS WITH THE CLERK OF THIS COURT WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. COPIES OF SUCH CLAIMS SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ., THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, P.O. BOX 5222 CHRB, SAIPAN MP 96950, ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED SHALL BE FOREVER BARRED.

DATED: SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Friday, September 28, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room..

AGENDA

I. **PRELIMINARY**
   a. Call to Order
   b. Roll Call
   c. Adoption of Agenda
   d. Adoption of Minutes
      1) August 31, 2018 - Regular Meeting

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

III. **REPORTS**
   a. Chair's Report
   b. Executive Director's Report

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
   a) Professional Services Contract – Janet H. King

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

VII. **MISCELLANEOUS/ ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

[1]Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2]Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

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• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

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REFUNDS

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ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Dodgers top Rockies, move back into 1st in NL West

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Joc Pederson hit two homers, Max Muncy added a three-run shot and the Los Angeles Dodgers moved back into first place in the NL West with an 8-2 victory over the Colorado Rockies on Monday night.

Dodgers starter Hyun-Jin Ryu (5-3) pitched seven scoreless innings, throwing 93 pitches to match a season high. He struck out five and didn't walk a batter as he lowered his ERA to 2.21 over seven starts since returning from a strained left groin.

The Rockies entered this showdown series with a half-game lead on Los Angeles, but the teams switched places as the Dodgers unleashed the high-powered offense that helped them win three of four last weekend in St. Louis.

It was a rough night all-around for the Rockies, who not only dropped out of first place in the division but fell a half-game behind the Cardinals for the second NL wild card. They also lost slugger Trevor Story in the fourth inning with an undisclosed injury. The All-Star shortstop was injured on a swing against Ryu.

Story was checked by manager Bud Black and a trainer before leaving the game. Already this season, Story has become the first shortstop in major league history with at least 40 doubles, 30 home runs and 25 steals.

Pederson gave a sign of what was ahead when he led off the game for the Dodgers with a home run to the opposite field in left. It was his sixth leadoff homer this season and the ninth of his career. Muncy also scored in the first inning on a wild pitch by Jon Gray (11-8).

The Dodgers chased Gray in the third as the first five hitters reached base. Manny Machado had an RBI single in the inning that was followed by Muncy's three-run drive, his 33rd homer of the season. Yasiel Puig's single ended Gray's night.

Gray went two-plus innings, giving up six runs, seven hits and two walks. He hasn't pitched more than four innings in three consecutive starts.

Pederson hit his second homer of the night in the fourth. His two-run shot into the seats in right field off reliever Harrison Musgrave was his 23rd of the season, and moved him three away from matching his career best set in his rookie year of 2015.

The Rockies broke through for their first run in the eighth against Dodgers left-hander Alex Wood on an RBI single from DJ LeMahieu. Wood, who was charged with two runs in the inning, was removed from the rotation last week.

AP

Los Angeles Dodgers relief pitcher Tony Cingrani catches a line drive hit by Colorado Rockies' Carlos Gonzalez to end the ninth inning of a baseball game in Los Angeles, Monday, Sept. 17, 2018. Dodgers won, 8-2

Giants 4, Padres 2

In San Diego, Brandon Crawford and Evan Longoria homered off Bryan Mitchell, and left-hander Andrew Suarez pitched into the eighth inning to lead the San Francisco Giants to a victory against the San Diego Padres in a matchup of NL West teams playing out the season.

Suarez (7-11) snapped a two-start losing streak by holding San Diego to two runs and four hits while striking out four and walking three in 7 2/3 innings. Will Smith pitched the ninth for his 13th save.

Rookie Chris Shaw had his first three-hit game for the Giants.

The Padres dropped to 60-91 to match last year's loss total with 11 games to play. Ownership had expected the Padres to be better than the club that finished 71-91 last year, but San Diego has lost at least 91 games for the third straight season and the fourth time in eight years.

Cardinals 11, Braves 6

In Atlanta, Miles Mikolas has been unbeatable this season when the St. Louis Cardinals score him a couple of runs.

He's 16-0 when getting at least two runs of support, a big asset for the Cardinals as they stay in the postseason hunt.

"I've been fortunate enough that when I've pitched, we've had great offense and we've put up runs and played great defense and everything has just come together," Mikolas said. "It's been a great season."

Kolten Wong hit the first of four St. Louis homers, Mikolas won his third straight start and the Cardinals beat the NL East-leading Atlanta Braves to give their playoff push another boost.

St. Louis has 35 victories since the All-Star break, most in the National League, and has won two straight after losing four in a row. The Cardinals, who also got homers from Paul DeJong, Harrison Bader and Yadier Molina, began the night tied with the Los Angeles Dodgers for the second NL wild card.

Cubs 5, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, Kyle Hendricks took a one-hit shutout into the ninth inning and the Chicago Cubs three-hit the Arizona Diamondbacks to open their important three-game series.

Hendricks (12-11) struck out eight and walked one. A.J. Pollock hit a leadoff homer against Hendricks in the ninth and Paul Goldschmidt added a two-out single before Justin Wilson relieved and closed things out.

Javier Baez homered in Chicago's three-run sixth inning that broke open what had been a pitcher's duel between Hendricks and Patrick Corbin (11-6).

Kris Bryant also homered, and the Cubs maintained their 2 1/2-game lead in the NL Central after second-place Milwaukee beat Cincinnati earlier Monday.

The Diamondbacks led the NL West when the month began but opened the day four games behind first-place Colorado. Arizona has lost 8 of 10 to fall five games out of the second wild card.

Mariners 4, Astros 1

In Houston, when Houston's Jake Marisnick made a highlight-reel catch on a ball hit by Robinson Cano for the second out of the eighth inning Monday night, Seattle manager Scott Servais started to think it just might not be his team's night.

Turns out he just had to wait a little bit longer.

Rookie pinch-hitter Daniel Vogelbach hit his first career grand slam two batters later, lifting the Mariners over the Houston Astros.

The Mariners trailed 1-0 when Nelson Cruz singled off Hector Rondon (2-5) with no outs in the eighth, and Kyle Seager singled with one out. Cano then hit a ball into shallow center field that looked like it would drop, but Marisnick, who also made a nice grab for the inning's first out, sprinted before diving and extending his arm to make the catch.

Rondon walked pinch-hitter Denard Span to load bases before Vogelbach sent a 97-mph fastball into the bullpen in right-center.

"Obviously a great at-bat by him and really coming through in a big moment," Servais said. "It seems like we had to figure out a way to get the ball away from Marisnick. ... We figured out a way to hit one where he couldn't catch it."

Brewers 8, Reds 0

In Milwaukee, Christian Yelich cycled his way into the record book.

Milwaukee's streaking slugger became the first major leaguer to hit for the cycle twice in one season against the same team, driving in four runs to lead the Brewers over the Cincinnati Reds.

"There's been so many great players to play this game," said Yelich, acquired in an offseason trade with Miami. "It just shows how freaky, I guess, that is. A lot of luck goes into that. It's hard enough to get four hits in a Major League Baseball game, yet alone have them all be the right ones and the right sequence."

Less than three weeks after his cycle in Cincinnati, Yelich accomplished the feat against the last-place Reds once again to help the Brewers in their playoff pursuit. Milwaukee remained 2½ games behind the first-place Cubs in the NL Central and three games up in the wild-card race. Chicago won 5-1 at Arizona.

Mets 9, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, if this was it for Zack Wheeler, he finished strong and—probably most importantly—healthy.

Wheeler pitched seven solid innings for his career-best 12th win in what may have been his final start of the season, Michael Conforto had a career-high six RBIs and the New York Mets beat the fading Philadelphia Phillies.

Wheeler (12-7) allowed four runs and three hits to become the first Mets pitcher since Steve Trachsel in 2001 to record nine wins after the All-Star Game. Since the break, the right-hander is 9-1 with a 1.68 ERA in 11 starts.

"Probably the best pitcher in baseball the last 1½ months," Mets manager Mickey Callaway said.

New York was eliminated from playoff contention Monday night when St. Louis beat Atlanta.

Rays 3, Rangers 0

In Arlington, Tyler Glasnow finally has a win to go with the label of the pitcher Tampa Bay got in the trade for former ace Chris Archer.

Glasnow allowed two infield singles in six innings for the hard-throwing right-hander's first American League win, 3-0 over the Texas Rangers.

"Let's just hope I get a bunch more," said Glasnow, who was winless in eight starts for the Rays, including three straight losses coming into Texas. "A win is irrelevant I'd say, but it's good to get the first win for sure."

Ji-Man Choi connected for his 10th homer , a solo shot, and drove in two runs to help the Rays improve to a major league-best 21-5 since Aug. 19. Tampa Bay pulled to 6 1/2 games behind idle Oakland for the second American League wild-card spot.

Mack, Amukamara lead Bears over Seahawks

CHICAGO (AP)—Khalil Mack once again put on the sort of havoc-wreaking show the Chicago Bears envisioned when they traded for the superstar pass rusher.

Even better for them, they came away with the victory this time.

Mack had one of six sacks against Russell Wilson, Prince Amukamara returned an interception 49 yards for a touchdown and the Bears beat the Seattle Seahawks 24-17 Monday night to give coach Matt Nagy his first career victory.

Mack sprinted out of the tunnel to a neat ovation prior to his first appearance at Soldier Field since a blockbuster trade from Oakland just over two weeks ago. That deal happened after he held out the entire offseason and preseason seeking a contract extension from the Raiders rather than play under the final year of his rookie contract. Chicago gave him a six-year, $141 million extension that guarantees $90 million—the richest deal ever for an NFL defensive player.

Mack also had the crowd roaring with a strip-sack in the first half, smacking the ball out of Wilson's hand as he wound up to pass, and he consistently pressured the quarterback. It was more of the same from last week, when he had a strip-sack and interception return for a TD at Green Bay, except there was one key difference.

The Bears came out on top after blowing a 20-point lead against a hobbled Aaron Rodgers in a loss to the Packers.

"That's a great feeling," Mack said. "We took it over the top."

Amukamara jumped the route on a pass intended for Rashaad Penny near midfield for his first career touchdown, making it 24-10 with 6:37 left. It was his first interception since 2015 with the New York Giants.

Danny Trevathan then stripped Wilson with his second sack of the game. The Bears' Leonard Floyd recovered the fumble, and Chicago hung on after blowing a 20-point lead in a season-opening loss to a hobbled Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers.

"I'm just really looking forward to the future of this team and seeing how we respond not only to tough losses like Green Bay, but how do we respond to a good win for us," said Nagy, who replaced the fired John Fox. "Sometimes those are just as hard."

The Seahawks (0-2) lost for just the second time in nine Monday night games under coach Pete Carroll.

"We're still a work in progress," he said.

Wilson has been sacked six times in each game this season. With the Bears applying constant pressure and his receivers struggling to get open, the four-time Pro Bowl quarterback completed 22 of 36 passes for 226 yards with two touchdowns and an interception.

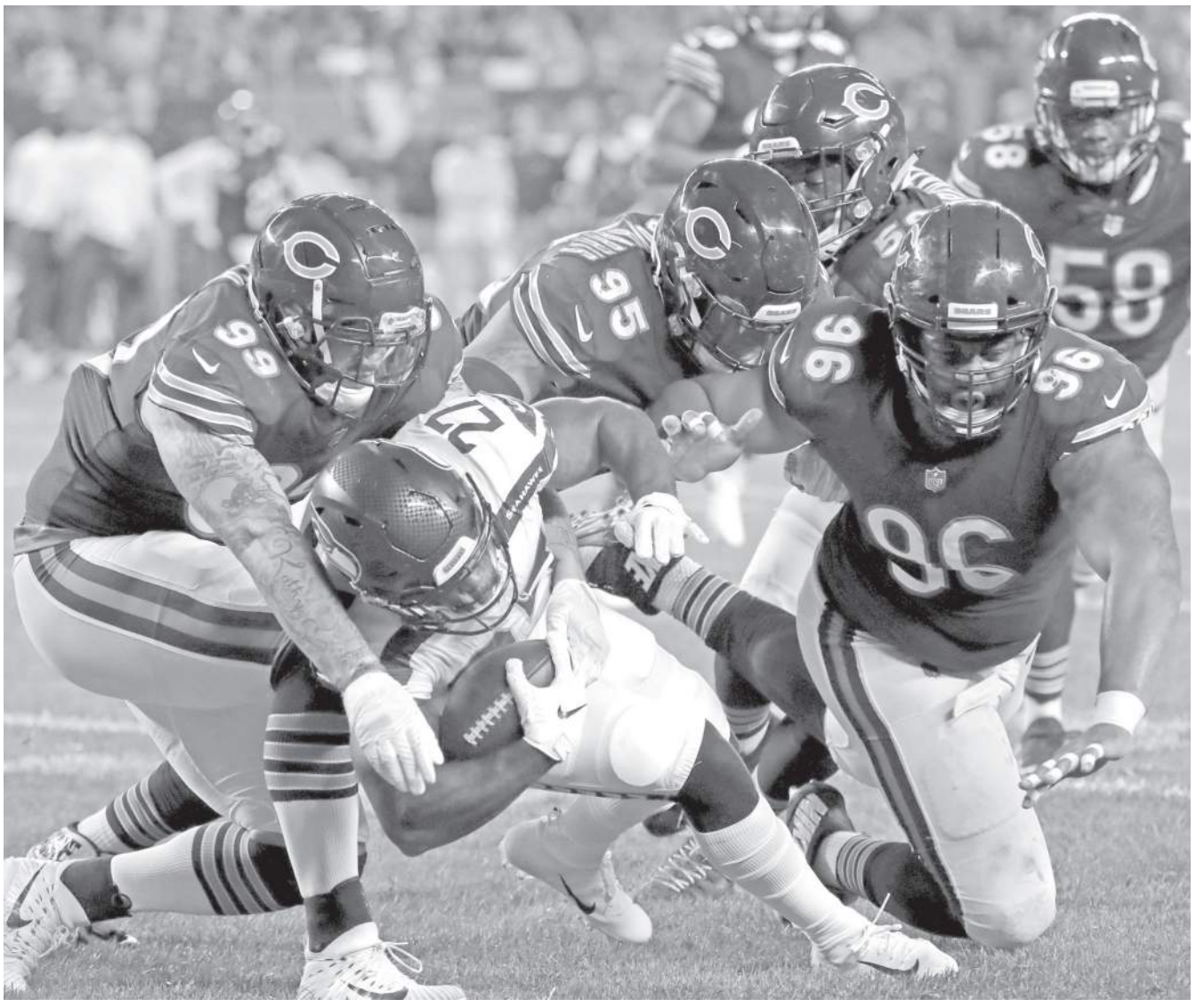
But Wilson focused more on the two TDs Seattle scored in the fourth quarter, though the last one came in the closing seconds.

"The fourth quarter showed us who we are and who we can be. ... I don't think we're far off by any means," he said. "I think the margin of error is really small. I'm normally optimistic, you guys know, but I really mean that. I think that's the situation we're in."

Chicago's Mitchell Trubisky was 25 of 34 for 200 yards. The No. 2 overall pick in last year's draft, Trubisky threw touchdown passes to Trey Burton on Chicago's first possession and rookie Anthony Miller early in the fourth quarter. But he was also intercepted two times by Shaquill Griffin— n a deep ball that was underthrown and on another throw tipped at the line.

"I'm really proud with how he handled himself from Play 1 until the end of that fourth quarter," Nagy said. "His attitude was great. He didn't worry about anything. And so that's growth right there."

Meanwhile, the Bears presented longtime linebacker Brian Urlacher with his Ring of Excellence for being inducted into the Hall of Fame.



AP

Seattle Seahawks running back Mike Davis (27) is tackled by Chicago Bears linebacker Aaron Lynch (99), defensive end Roy Robertson-Harris (95) and defensive end Akiem Hicks (96) during the second half of an NFL football game Monday, Sept. 17, 2018, in Chicago.

Patriots land Browns WR Gordon in surprising trade

The New England Patriots' latest experiment at wide receiver this season might be their grandest yet.

The Patriots acquired former Pro Bowl pass catcher Josh Gordon in a trade with the Cleveland Browns on Monday, the teams announced. Cleveland will receive a 2019 fifth-round pick in the deal and send back a 2019 conditional seventh-round pick.

The Browns previously announced on Saturday that they planned to release Gordon. The wide receiver showed up late to the facility that day and the organization reached the point where many believed they could no longer trust him, a person with knowledge of the move told USA TODAY Sports' Mike Jones. The person spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the situation.

"For the past six years, the Browns have fully supported him and invested in Josh, both personally and professionally and wanted the best for him, but unfortunately we've reached a point where we feel it's best to part ways and move forward," Browns general manager John Dorsey said in a statement on Saturday. "We wish Josh well."

Gordon, 27, led the NFL with 1,646 receiving yards in 2013. But he played just 10 games from 2013-17, missing two full seasons while serving suspensions for multiple violations of the NFL's substance abuse policy. He also sat out the beginning of training camp this August to focus on his recovery.

New England has made a rash of moves to reshape its receiving corps this offseason but is still thin at the position as the team awaits Julian Edelman's return from a four-game suspension. After completing just nine passes to wide receivers in the opener against the Houston Texans, Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was held to 234 yards passing and two touchdowns against the Jacksonville Jaguars on Sunday.

The Patriots cut recently signed wide receiver Corey Coleman in a corresponding roster transaction.

Gordon is set to earn a base salary of $790,000 this season before becoming a restricted free agent in 2019.

Sharapova withdraws from tournaments

NEW YORK—Maria Sharapova is shutting down her 2018 season and will withdraw from the three tournaments that she was set to compete in later this year, according to New York Times.

Sharapova is looking to get some rest and will not participate in the China Open, Tianjin Open or VTB Kremlin Cup.

Sharapova reportedly plans to start her 2019 season at the Shenzen Open. That same event is where she started her 2018 season and put together one of her best tournament runs of the year as she reached the semifinals.

That was one of two times Sharapova advanced passed the quarterfinals in a tournament this year, but both runs ended in the semifinals.

Sharapova had a mixed bag of results at Grand Slams in 2018. She reached the quarterfinals at the French Open, the round of 16 at the U.S. Open, the round of 32 at the Australian Open and was bounced in the first round at Wimbledon.

Meanwhile, in Russia, three-time Grand Slam champion Stan Wawrinka booked a place in the second round at the Saint Petersburg Open with a hard-fought straight-sets win over Slovenia's Aljaz Bedene here on Monday.

The 33-year-old Wawrinka, who came to St Petersburg courtesy of a wildcard, prevailed 7-5, 7-6 (7/5) in one hour 46 minutes to chalk up his third win over Bedene in their fourth meeting.

"I'm really happy to be back here," Wawrinka said on court after the match. "Last time I was here two years ago when I lost in the final.

"Of course I'm happy with my first win here. I think it was a great level."

The Swiss star has been struggling to find his best form since returning to the ATP Tour after two operations on his left knee a year ago, and he was trailing 5-3 here after dropping his serve early in the first set.

But the former world No. 3, who is now down at 88, picked up steam and broke back twice to take the opener in 46 minutes. Wawrinka looked better in the second set but there were no big serves on the St Petersburg hard-court.

Wawrinka won his first Grand Slam title at the 2014 Australian Open and then added the 2015 French Open and 2016 US Open titles to his trophy cabinet. In the match for a place in the last eight he will face fourth seeded Russian Karen Khachanov, who enjoyed an opening-round bye.

Earlier on Monday Martin Klizan of Slovakia, who won the title here six years ago, saw off Russia's Evgeny Donskoy 6-4, 6-4.

In the match for a place in the quarter-finals the Slovakian left-hander will face second seed Fabio Fognini of Italy in a replay of the 2012 Saint Petersburg's final.

"It's a great feeling as I came back to Saint Petersburg after a long break," Klizan said. "I have very pleasant memories after winning trophy here and I want to make it again.

"It will be a good match I hope," he said about the meeting with Fognini. "Fabio is a great player but I feel very comfortable in this arena and I hope I can win more matches here."

DeChambeau leads favorites in Tour Championship

AP
Bryson DeChambeau tees off on the third hole during the final round of the Dell Technologies Championship golf tournament at TPC Boston in Norton, Mass., Monday, Sept. 3, 2018.

ATLANTA—A new champion will be crowned this week as the Top 30 players in the FedEx Cup standings tee it up at the 2018 Tour Championship.

Bryson DeChambeau, who won the Northern Trust and Dell Technologies Championship to start the Playoffs, enters the Tour Championship 2018 as the leader with 5,789 points. He's looking to become the first player since Tiger Woods to win the FedEx Cup Playoffs as the No. 1 seed entering the final tournament. However, Justin Rose and Dustin Johnson enter as co-favorites at 8-1 Tour Championship odds, while former champion Rory McIlroy is close behind at 9-1.

SportsLine's prediction model, built by DFS pro Mike McClure, has been dead-on so far in the 2018 FedEx Cup Playoffs. It was all over DeChambeau at the Dell Technologies Championship, projecting him as a top contender from the start despite being a 33-1 long shot.

It has also nailed four of the past eight majors entering the weekend and called Woods' deep run in the PGA Championship despite being a 25-1 long shot. Anyone who has followed their model is up big.

Now that the 2018 Tour Championship field is locked, SportsLine simulated the event 10,000 times, and the results were surprising.

One huge surprise the model is calling for in its 2018 Tour Championship picks: Woods, the only player to win the FedEx Cup more than once, makes a strong run but falls just short of winning the title.

Woods is still searching for that elusive 80th PGA Tour victory and his last win in the FedExCup Playoffs was at the 2009 BMW Championship. However, Woods enters the 2018 Tour Championship full of confidence. In 17 starts this season, he has two second-place finishes and six top-10s. Wagers on Tigers have been coming in earnest this week, as he opened at 14-1, but is now listed at 12-1 Tour Championship odds.

Another surprise: Jason Day, who won the Farmers Insurance Open and Wells Fargo Championship already this season and is one of the top 10 favorites at the Tour Championship, stumbles and finishes outside the top 10.

In 2015, Day followed his PGA Championship win with two playoff victories at The Barclays and BMW Championship. However, his 10th place finish at the Tour Championship that year meant a second-place finish in the FedEx Cup race behind Jordan Spieth. He's one of only two players to win a pair of playoff tournaments, but not take down the overall PGA title.

Despite his two victories and five top-10 finishes on tour this season, Day has struggled in recent weeks. In fact, he's failed to finish in the top 15 in five of his last six starts on the PGA Tour. Day is a golfer you'll want to completely avoid this week at East Lake.

Also, the model says three golfers with odds of 16-1 or longer will make a deep run at the Tour Championship title. Anyone who bets on these underdogs could hit it big.

CNMI

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on the Commonwealth's starting unit by defenders Kristelle Itaas, Sharmaine Francisco, Julianne Hall, and Jenny Ann Capayas, midfielders Joannah Carreon, Jannah Casarino, Nathanette Blas, Christina Atalig, and Katrina Costales, and forward Paulyn Joyce. Abegail Decena and Lilian Podziewski also played against Tajikistan, replacing Blas and Atalig, respectively. Podziewski came in midway in the first half, while Decena entered the pitch in the second.

"Going into second half, the girls continued to play the same game. The opposing team was able to get back-to-back goals, but the girls didn't falter in their confidence and kept playing," Phan said.

Overall, the team manager said the CNMI players followed goalkeeper coach Jimmy Tang's teachings.

"The girls played according to the '3 Cs' principles taught to them by Coach Jimmy: Compactness, communication, and collectivity," Phan added.

With two games down, the Commonwealth bets have two more matches left and they have three days to prepare before they face Thailand in their penultimate match on Sept. 21. The CNMI will close out its campaign in the qualifier on Sept. 22 when it collides against Singapore and despite a 0-0-2 win-draw-loss record and having two even tougher opponents, the 18-player team remains positive.

"The wonderful thing is how the girls are never negatively affected by their losses and instead, they are always looking forward to the next game. Little by little, we can see the changes in mentality they are adopting," Phan said.

TAJIKISTAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION
CNMI captain Khristelle Itaas, fifth left, poses with game officials and her counterpart in Tajikistan before their game in the AFC U16 Women's Championship 2019 Qualifiers last Monday in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

Meanwhile, in other results in Group C, favored Thailand crushed Singapore, 6-0. Singapore came from a 4-1 win over Tajikistan in the opening day in the pool.

Thailand will go for win No. 2 today when it takes on Tajikistan, while Iran and Singapore will square off in the other pairing in Group C. The Top 2 finishers in the pool after the round-robin play will advance to Round 2.

Other results last Monday had China whipping Guam, 20-0, and Jordan shutting down Sri Lanka, 7-0, in Group A; Lebanon beating United Arab Emirates, 6-3, and Bangladesh routing Bahrain, 10-0, in Group F; and Laos downing Pakistan, 3-0, and Hong Kong nosing out Mongolia, 2-1, in Group B.

PETITION

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up at 5:30 am to swim laps with Coach Mike (Stewart) a decade ago," the SIS teacher said, adding that she also shared the petition to her friends.

"On some Saturdays, Brad and I join the Dolphin Club as they teach new swimmers and old-timers alike. Now my children and their friends are there at least twice a week as members of the Saipan Swim Club. Kan Pacific is the community's pool. It would be a shame to see the facility close down," Ruszala said.

Triathlon Association in the CNMI official Ricky Castro also signed the petition and called on his TRAC members to do the same.

"Please keep the pool. Sign the petition now," he said. "The Kan Pacific has a significant part in CNMI swimming history. This is where gold medals are mined and skills of the young and young at heart are honed."

The petition, which was started by the members of the swimming community, will be turned in to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and DPL to request for the continued operation of the pool.

Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation John Hirsh has also forwarded a letter to Torres, making the same request and *Saipan Tribune* learned that the two officials have been talking about the Marpi pool since last week.

To sign the petition, please visit https://www.change.org/p/save-the-pool.

MP

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to notch five more goals in the first half—courtesy of Pablo (two), John Mark Anastacio, Markus Toves, and Andrew Sablan, for a commanding 7-0 advantage.

Sean Gil delivered the last goal for Kanoa-1 in the 40th minute, while Anthony John Bergancia prevented a shutout loss for TanHoldings when he found the back of the net in the 45th.

After its impressive win last week, Kanoa-1 will return to the Koblerville pitch and take on sister squad Kanoa-2 in the first game at 1pm. In the other match, MP United aims to make it three in a row when it collides against TanHoldings at 2:20pm.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Boston	103	47	.687	—
New York	91	58	.611	11½
Tampa Bay	83	66	.557	19½
Toronto	68	82	.453	35
Baltimore	43	107	.287	60

Central Division

x-Cleveland	83	66	.557	—
Minnesota	69	81	.460	14½
Detroit	61	89	.407	22½
Chicago	59	90	.396	24
Kansas City	52	98	.347	31½

West Division

Houston	94	56	.627	—
Oakland	90	60	.600	4
Seattle	83	67	.553	11
Los Angeles	74	76	.493	20
Texas	64	86	.427	30

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	83	67	.553	—
Philadelphia	76	73	.510	6½
Washington	76	75	.503	7½
New York	70	80	.467	13
Miami	59	91	.393	24

Central Division

Chicago	88	62	.587	—
Milwaukee	86	65	.570	2½
St. Louis	83	68	.550	5½
Pittsburgh	75	74	.503	12½
Cincinnati	64	87	.424	24½

West Division

Los Angeles	83	68	.550	—
Colorado	82	68	.547	½
Arizona	78	73	.517	5
San Francisco	71	80	.470	12
San Diego	60	91	.397	23

z-clinched playoff berth
x-clinched division

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shirley's FC vs Matansa FC in Girls U16 Division

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Shirley's Football Club player, left, uses her body to prevent a Matansa player from getting near the ball during their girls U16 division game in the 2018 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

A Matansa player, left, dribbles ahead of Shirley's FC's Therize Millare.

A Matansa player tries to keep control of the ball.

A Matansa player, second left, picks up a fallen Shirley's defender while their teammates continue the game.

Matansa's goalie tries to catch the ball that was kicked by Shirley's FC's Jerlyn Castillo, center.

Matansa, left, and Shirley's players battle for possession.

Matansa, left, and Shirley's players fight for the ball.

Referee Amzad Khan restarts the match.

Dodgers top Rockies, move back into 1st in NL West

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Mack, Amukamara lead Bears over Seahawks

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Petition to save pool out

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Volunteer timers are on deck, as swimmers get ready to plunge into the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool during a local tournament.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

An online petition calling for the continued operation of the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool is going around and has drawn a lot of support from the community.

As of 9pm yesterday, over 1,600 have signed the petition posted at the change.org website, which according to its profile is used by "people everywhere in starting campaigns, mobilizing supporters, and working with decision makers to drive solutions."

Time is ticking for the only Olympic-sized swimming pool in the CNMI, as it will cease operation on Sept. 30, according to the letter sent by Kan Pacific to the three swims clubs using the facility—Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan, Saipan Swim Club, and Dolphin Swim Club. Kan Pacific has been managing the 50-meter pool for over four decades, but the extension of the lease agreement (for the property in the Marpi area, including the pool), between the government and the company will be expiring at the end of this month. Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC has received a notice of intent to award the new lease of all the facilities under Kan Pacific's care. However, the final decision on the approval, denial, or amendment of the new lease agreement will come from the Legislature and as of press time no development on the issue has been released.

Kathy Ruszala, who swims at the pool with his husband Brad, and has students (with Saipan International School) and her two children also using the facility for practices and local tournaments, is one of the signatories in the petition.

"Hundreds of children and adults have learned the fundamentals of swimming in that pool. I still remember waking

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MP United takes early lead

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Matansa Football Club player, right, kicks the ball, while an MP United FC defender attempts to deflect it during the first half of their co-ed U13A division game in the 2018 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United Football Club made it two in a row following a 4-1 victory over Matansa FC in their co-ed U13A division game in the 2018 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

With its 2-0 record, MP United, which coasted past Kanoa FC-2 in the opening week of the league, 7-3, earned the solo lead in the five-team field. Matansa, on the other hand, has yet to break into the win column, as it drew its opener (versus TanHoldings) in the division.

Dev Bachani led MP United's easy triumph over Matansa after drilling a pair of goals, while Richard Castro scored the other goal for the winning squad. MP United was awarded an own goal in the 40th minute to take the 2-1 lead after Matansa tied the match in the 28th minute off Jose Rafael Lopez's shot. Earlier in the 21st minute, Bachani broke the ice and then got his second goal in the 41st minute to stretch MP United's lead before Castro closed out for the squad with his goal in the 45th.

In the other division match, Kanoa FC-1 had a rousing season debut after crushing TanHoldings, 8-1.

Daniel Mar Pablo registered two goals for Kanoa-1, which had six more players making it to the board in the team's first game of the season. Jim Kurt Maniago started things off for the on target Kanoa-1 with his goal in the 12th minute, while just two minutes later, it was Dylan Mister's turn to score. Kanoa-1 went on

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CNMI limits Tajikistan to 3 goals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI U16 Women's National Team played better defense in its second game in the AFC U16 Women's Championship 2019 Qualifiers, limiting host Tajikistan to just three goals in their Group C duel last Monday in Dushanbe.

The visiting squad, which lost to Iran, 12-0, held the home team to just one goal in the entire first half before giving up two in the second.

"From the beginning, the girls did their best to stay disciplined and it seemed to have paid off, as Tajikistan players were unsure how to play the ball forward and instead kept the ball moving from their defense to midfield and back. The first half ended at 1-0 for Tajikistan," said team manager Liz Phan, adding that Tajikistan got a goal off a break, as there was a miscommunication between the defense and CNMI goalie Marinel Falalimpa.

The goalkeeper was joined

See CNMI on Page 26

TAJIKISTAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION

The CNMI's Joannah Carreon, right, steps in on defense to steal the ball from a Tajikistan player during their game in the AFC U16 Women's Championship 2019 Qualifiers last Monday in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.